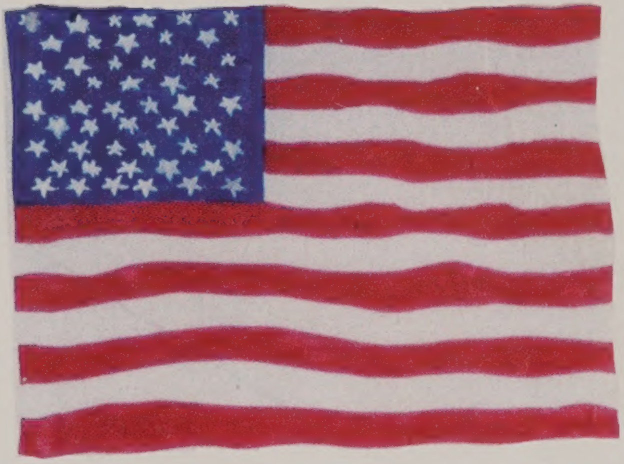
Annual Town Report
2001



God Bless America.
Land that I love
Stand beside her, and guide her
Thru the night with a light from above.
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam
God bless America
My home sweet home.

Town of Belchertown

2001

ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

OF THE

FOUNDED 1731 · INCORPORATED 1761

TOWN OFFICERS

FOR THE

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN

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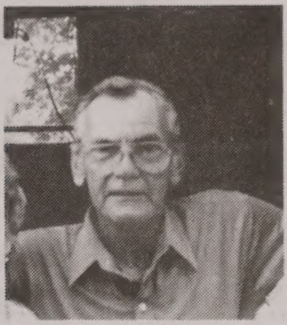
JOSEPH F. AUSTIN

Joseph F. Austin was born in Belchertown and was a lifelong resident.

A farmer for 50 years, Joe owned and operated the Austin Brothers Valley Farm, a 130-year second-generation farm here.

He was an Army Air Forces navigator in the Pacific Theater during World War II, and received Asiatic-Pacific and American theater ribbons.

Having lived for over ninety years in this town, his family knows that Joe would feel both honored and pleased to be recognized in this way.

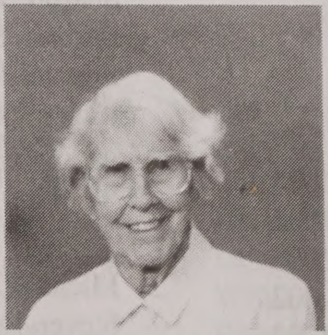


HARRY A. DODGE

Harry A. Dodge was born in Belchertown and was a lifelong resident here.

He was an Army Korean War veteran and a member of the Belchertown VFW, and he was also a member of the Swift River Sportsman's Club.

Harry Dodge was employed by the Town of Belchertown for 25 years as Highway Superintendent and retired in 1993.



ALICE MAY PEDEN

Alice May Peden was born in Belchertown in 1912. She attended Belchertown schools and grew up during the construction of the Quabbin Reservoir. Alice was introduced to Girl Scouting at age 9. It was a new idea in this country. Her first meeting was in the old barn at the former Dickinson's house on South Main Street. Girl Scouting remained her passion throughout high school and at one point she was involved in three troops, including leading a Brownie troop.

While working at the Belchertown State School she discovered her true vocation, an Occupational Therapist. She went on to join the Navy WAVES, serving in World War II.

Upon retirement, Alice chose to return to her roots in Belchertown. She ran for Selectmen in the 1970s, was active at the Senior Center where she was a long-time member of the painting group and volunteered at the Library where she especially enjoyed teasing the Director, Owen Maloney.

Name Office Term Expires

2001 ELECTED OFFICERS

Almoners - Whiting Street and Susan M.D. Bridgman Funds

Linda E. Barron	5/2002
Suzanne M. Bay	5/2002

Trustees – Calvin Bridgman Fund

Sylvia C. Conkey	5/2004
Kenneth H. Snow	5/2003
Mary S. Pratt	5/2002

Councilor-Hampshire Council of Governments

William R. Barnett	5/2003

Board of Assessors

Samuel J. Joyal	5/2004
Michael P. Forgue	5/2003
Deborah M. Sammataro	5/2002

Board of Health

Gail L. Gramarossa	5/2004
Gary R. Racicot (elect 5/21/01)	5/2004
Roger M. Bonsall	5/2003
Leonard R. Belisle	5/2002
Lisa Walter-Zucco (appt 12/17/01)	5/2002
Dennis Hotte (resigned 7/9/01)	5/2002

Housing Authority

James Gambaro (elected 5/21/01)	5/2006
Tracey L. Thompson	5/2005
Sally M. Dodge	5/2004
Kenneth D. Nolan	5/2003
F. Knowlton Utley (State Mbr)	2/3/02

Name Office Term Expires

Moderator

Terry Scott Nagel	5/2002

Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District Committee Members

Judith C. Dudek	11/2004
Michael Roncolato	11/2002

Planning Board

Joe D. Gilman, Jr.(elect 5/21/01)	5/2006
Daniel R. Beaudette	5/2005
James J. Natle	5/2004
James A. Barry	5/2003
Elizabeth C. Chase	5/2002

School Committee

Mary Ellen O'Reilly Bracey (elect 5/21/01)	5/2004
Sharon D. Barnett	5/2003
Barbara Schaffer Bacon	5/2003
Edward R. Mitnick	5/2002
Richard D. White	5/2002

Board of Selectmen

Michael J. Reardon	5/2004
Steven D. Rose	5/2004
Linda E. Barron	5/2003
Gerald A. Grasso	5/2003
Ronald E. Aponte	5/2002

Town Clerk

William R. Barnett	5/2003

2002 APPOINTED OFFICERS

Town Accountant

Eleanor W. Green	6/30/02

Assistant Town Accountant

Jill M. Besancon	6/30/02

Town Administrator

Gary L. Brougham	6/30/03

Americans with Disabilities Act Committee

Paul Adzima, Coordinator	Final Report
Max Brock	Final Report
Gary L. Brougham	Final Report
Lee Concheri	Final Report
Sally Dodge	Final Report
Judith Metcalf	Final Report
Ruthella Tucker	Final Report
Steven J, Williams	Final Report

Director of Assessments (appointed by Board of Assessors)

John G. Whelihan	6/30/02

Civil Defense Director

Edward F. Bock	6/30/02

Civil Defense Deputy Director

Mark S. Brouillette	6/30/02

Civil Defense Radio Officer

Ronald R. Beaver	6/30/02

Civil Defense Members

John Milner	6/30/02

Belchertown's Community Emergency Response Coordinator

Edward F. Bock

Conservation Commission

Alfred P. Gallant, Jr. (appt 3/12/01)	6/30/04
Edward T. Knight	6/30/04
David M. Haines	6/30/03
F. Thomas Keefe	6/30/03
Robert J. Rizzo	6/30/03
Joseph K. Babineau	6/30/02
Paul Eurkus	6/30/02
John Clements, Associate (appt 8/6/01)	6/30/02
Bruce Tolpa, Associate (appt 8/6/01)	6/30/02
Joseph Rafuse (resigned 3/19/01)	6/30/01
Robert Stover (resigned 3/01/01)	6/30/01

Council on Aging

James R. Collard	6/30/04
Mildred Christenson (appt 6/11/01)	6/30/04
Doris M. Dickinson	6/30/04
George Dion	6/30/04
William Kimball	6/30/03
Ethel Casey	6/30/03
Marion Panto	6/30/03
Sally Dodge (appt 6/11/01)	6/30/02
Josephine Fitzgerald	6/30/02
Jeannette M. Crowther	6/30/02
Joan Poole	6/30/02
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick (resigned 4/19/01)	6/30/02

Belchertown Cultural Council

Katherine Fitzgerald (appt 6/25/01)	6/30/04
Lara Lynn Lane (appt 6/25/01)	6/30/04
Sharon Cady-Harrison	6/30/03
Ljuba Marsh	6/30/03
Adam Sweet	6/30/02
Dennis E. Conway	6/30/02
MaryEllen Miller	6/30/02
Gretchen Holesovsky (resigned 7/1/01)	6/30/02

Dog Officer

Debra R. Michaud	4/30/02

Assistant Dog Officer

Deborah O'Connor (appt 8/20/01)	4/30/02
Jody Berensen (resigned 1/16/01)	4/30/01
Judith Roberts (resigned 1/15/01)	4/30/02

Poundkeeper

Nancy Long (resigned 1/22/01)

Economic Development & Industrial Corporation (EDIC)

Peter S. Galuszka (At-Large Seat)	6/30/04
William A. Terry (Government Seat)	6/30/04
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick (Financial Seat) (appt 2/20/01)	6/30/04
Eugenie Barry	6/30/03
Kirk Stephens	6/30/03
Lloyd C. Chadbourne	6/30/02
Richard Steiner	6/30/02
Paul Anziano, Associate	6/30/02
Mary Knight, Associate	6/30/02
David Roberts, Associate	6/30/02

Economic Development & Industrial Corporation (EDIC) continued

J. David Marley, Associate (appt 8/6/01)	6/30/02
Edward Comeau (resigned 1/11/01)	
David Reed (resigned 3/5/01)	6/30/01
Jeanette Rossi (resigned 6/7/01)	6/30/01
Francesca Maltese, Ex-Officio	
Jonathan Spiegel, Associate Member	
Gregory Galanek, Associate Member	
Frances Callahan, Associate Member	

EMS Operations Manager

Steven A. Syriac

EMS Department

Sean Bracey	6/30/02
David Conkey	6/30/02
James Daniels (appt 9/4/01)	6/30/02
Kerry Gaughen (appt 2//26/01)	6/30/02
Linda Kelleher	6/30/02
Bruce Jenks	6/30/02
Frances Lofland	6/30/02
Thomas Majerowski	6/30/02
Jeff Scott	6/30/02
James Taylor	6/30/02

Fair Committee

William Austin	6/30/02
Marguerite Brennen	6/30/02
Cindy Brown	6/30/02
Kevin Brown	6/30/02
Carla Chaisson	6/30/02
Kevin Lacroix (appt 9/4/01)	6/30/02
Peg Louraine	6/30/02
Mark Nute	6/30/02
Cathy Terry	6/30/02

Belchertown Family Center
(All members appointed 7/23/01)

Lucy Klein	6/30/04
Karen Horak	6/30/04
Angie Tauer	6/30/03
Katherine J. Atkinson	6/30/03
Widi Sumaryono	6/30/02

Finance Committee

Luc Hardyn (appt 6/21/01)	6/30/04
Elise Wright (appt 12/12/01)	6/30/03
Daniel P. Kloss (appt 6/21/01)	6/30/04
David A. Reed (appt 3/5/01)	6/30/02
Paul M. Silva	6/30/02
Roseann Martoccia (resigned 3/5/01)	6/30/03
Gloria Ortiz (resigned 5/14/01)	6/30/01
Joel Slupnicki (resigned 7/11/01)	6/30/03

Fire Chief

Edward F. Bock

Forest Fire Warden

Edward F. Bock

Hampshire County
Local Emergency Planning Committee

Edward F. Bock	6/30/02

Hampshire Council of Government's
Electric Cooperative Committee

Gary Brougham (appt 6/5/01)

Board of Health – Appointments
Burial Agent

William R. Barnett	6/30/02

Quabbin Health District

Randall Gauley, Health Inspector	6/30/02
Judy Metcalf, Director of Public Health	6/30/02

Physician Advisor to Board of Health

Yih-Ming Hsiao, M.D.	6/30/02

Inspector of Animals

Cynthia Stedman (appt 2/13/01)	2/28/02

High School Building Committee

Douglas Albertson	Final Report
Eric Bernardin	Final Report
Edward J. Ciosek	Final Report
Patrick S. Daly	Final Report
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick	Final Report
Gerald A. Grasso	Final Report
Simon James	Final Report
Robert Lachance	Final Report
Elizabeth Radwilowicz	Final Report
Franklin D. Wenzel	Final Report
Richard White	Final Report

James Brown, Associate Mbr
David M. Sammataro, Associate Mbr
Melissa Michaud (non-voting adjunct mbr)
Thomas O'Donnell, Jr. (non-voting mbr)
Richard Pazasis, Ex-Officio

Historical Commission

Kenneth F. Kitchell, Jr.	6/30/04
Judith Fuller Gillan	6/30/04
Adam Sweet	6/30/03
Gail Pisacane	6/30/02
Leslie Squires	6/30/02
James Chevalier	6/30/02

Historic District Commission

Jacqueline Dupre	6/30/04
Annie M. Steiner	6/30/03
Louis Faassen	6/30/03
John B. Curry III	6/30/02
Stacy M. Race (appt 11/14/01)	6/30/02
Christopher Bloom (resigned 2/15/01)	6/30/02

Holiday Lighting Committee

Peg Louraine	6/30/02
Jay Rossi	6/30/02
Cheryl Dutton	6/30/02
Debra J. Grudgen	6/30/02

Industrial Development Financing Authority (IFDA)
All members appointed 7/23/01

David Barszcz (Real Estate Seat)	6/30/06
Paul Dansereau (Financial Seat)	6/30/05
Steven Rose (At Large Seat)	6/30/04
David Roberts (Government Seat)	6/30/02

Inspector of Buildings

Paul Adzima	6/30/02

Assistant Inspector of Buildings

Michael T. Henry	6/30/02

Inspector of Plumbing and Gas Fittings

David Fredenburgh (eff 7/1/01)	6/30/02

Assistant Inspector of Plumbing and Gas Fittings

Christopher A. Hubbard	6/30/02

Inspector of Wiring

Paul Choiniere (eff 7/1/01)	
Douglas Rae (resigned 6/30/01)	6/30/01

Assistant Inspector of Wiring

Harvey Beaupre (eff 6/1/01)	6/30/02
Douglas Rae (eff 7/1/01)	6/30/02

Personnel Board

Maureen A. Wildley	6/30/04
Julie W. Peck (appt 6/21/01)	6/30/04
M. Florine Neggers	6/30/03
Themis J. Tsoumas	6/30/03
David C. Kuzmeski	6/30/02
Lester Howard (resigned 2/12/01)	6/30/01

Town Planner

Douglas Albertson

Planning Board – Alternate Voting Member for Special Permits

George Synan (appt 7/24/01)	7/24/02

Planning Board – Associate Member (Members Appointed)

Susan Bradway (appt 8/14/01)	8/14/02
Carolann Koehler (appt 8/14/01)	8/14/02

Police Candidate Review Committee

Orin Bracey	6/30/02
Al Roccanti	6/30/02

Police Chief

Robert A. Knight

Police Department - Lieutenant

William C. Zobka	6/30/02

Police Department – Sergeants (Full-time)

Francis Fox, Jr.	6/30/02
Ernest M. Gay, Jr.	6/30/02
James Jackson, Jr.	6/30/02

Police Department – Patrol Officers (Full-time)

Roy F. Bergeron	6/30/02
Sean Bracey	6/30/02
David A. Conkey	6/30/02
Bruce Jenks	6/30/02
Winthrop N. Kellogg	6/30/02
Edward H. Oey	6/30/02
Kevin J. Pacunas	6/30/02
William A. Panto	6/30/02
Kevin G. Truehart	6/30/02
James Daniels (appt 9/1/01)	6/30/02
Joseph Morissette (appt 9/1/01)	6/30/02

Police Department – Patrol Officers (Part-time)

John Bonafini	6/30/02
Sean Hamel	6/30/02
Jeffrey Scott	6/30/02
James Taylor	6/30/02
William C. Zobka, Jr.	6/30/02
Valerie Anderson (appt 9/1/01)	6/30/02
Adam Brougham (appt 9/1/01)	6/30/02

Constables

John Milner	6/30/02
Andrew Sears	6/30/02

Police Station Building Committee

Peter Burton	Final Report
John B. Curry, III	Final Report
Susan Dawley	Final Report
Donna Deroin	Final Report
Robert W. Farrington	Final Report
Robert Henrichon	Final Report
Douglas Rae	Final Report
David Squires	Final Report
William Terry	Final Report

Robert Knight, Police Chief, Ex-Officio
Linda E. Barron, Selectman, Ex-Officio

Procurement Officer

Gary L. Brougham
Eleanor Green, Assistant

Public Weigher

Joseph W. Tolpa, Jr.	6/30/02

Public Works Director

Steven J. Williams

PVPC Joint Transportation Committee

Steven J. Williams (appt 5/22/01)	6/30/02
Gary Brougham, Alternate (appt 5/22/01)	6/30/02

PVTA Advisory Board

W. Daniel Fitzpatrick	6/30/02

PVTA (Pioneer Valley Planning Commission) Representatives

Daniel R. Beaudette	
Douglas Albertson, Alternate	6/30/02

Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce Business Assistance Loan Program (Belchertown's Representative)

Gregory Galanek

Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce Regional EconomicDevelopment (Belchertown's Representatives)

Michael Reardon	Final Report
David Roberts	Final Report

Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee (Belchertown's Representative)

Richard Steiner (appt 8/20/01)

Rationing Board

David H. Squires	6/30/04
Richard F. Dzialo	6/30/03
Patricia J. Mitchell	6/30/02

Recreation Building Study Committee

Garry M. Bock	Final Report
David Cushing	Final Report
James Phaneuf	Final Report
Tilo R. Schiffer	Final Report
Themis J. Tsoumas	Final Report
Michael VanDyke	Final Report

Recreation Committee

Kathleen W. Scruton (appt regular member 1/22/01)	6/30/04
Nancy A. Kwiatkowski	6/30/04
Thomas P. Kubacki (appt regular member 5/7/01)	6/30/04
William Eldridge	6/30/03
Rebecca A. Smith (appt 5/7/01)	6/30/03
Robert L. Chartier	6/30/02
Bruce C. Smith	6/30/02
Chris Daley, Associate	6/30/02
Karen Schiffer, Associate	6/30/02

Recreation Director

Robert S. Opalenik

(Advisory) Regional Economic Development Commission – Regarding the Ware River Valley Regional Economic Target Area

W. Daniel Fitzpatrick (appt 1/16/01)

Registrars of Voters

Pauline C. Johnson (appt 3/12/01)	3/31/04
M. Florine Neggers	3/31/03
Dorothy A. Pomietlarz	3/31/02
William R. Barnett	6/30/02

Assistant Registrars of Voters

Robert Hansbury (appt 3/12/01) (Belchertown High School)	3/31/02
Richard M. Sinkoski (appt 3/12/01) (Pathfinder)	3/31/02

Precinct Coordinator

Marcel Archambault	8/31/01

Election Officers – Precinct A

Elizabeth Leger (Warden)	8/31/01
Susan Dion (Clerk)	8/31/01

Election Officers – Precinct B

Diane Ricchiazzi (Warden)	8/31/01
Donna Abely (Clerk)	8/31/01

Election Officers – Precinct C

Eileen D. Staples (Warden)	8/31/01
Clara Very(Clerk)	8/31/01

Rent Control Board

Steven Syriac (appt 7/9/01)	6/30/06
Helen Andrews	6/30/05
Mitchell Vincent	6/30/04

Rent Control Board

Tracy Steadman	6/30/03
Daniel Beaudette	6/30/02
Herbert E. Squires (resigned 5/1/01)	6/30/01

School Crossing Guards

Hector Tetreault	6/30/01
Andrew Sears, Sub.	6/30/01

Sealer of Weights and Measures

Paul Adzima	6/30/02

Senior Center Building Committee

Eva Terri Ericksberg	Final Report
Ellen Hall	Final Report
Samuel Joyal	Final Report
William F. Kimball, Jr.	Final Report
M. Florine Neggers	Final Report
Alice Peden	Final Report
Michael Reardon	Final Report

Senior Center Building Committee

Lorraine Zatyrka	Final Report
James Shea	Final Report

Skate Park Committee (name change 5/29/01)

Guy Savoie	6/30/04
Nathan Tarleton	6/30/04
Cynthia Bourbeau	6/30/03
Amy D'Amours	6/30/03
Ann Phelps	6/30/03
Nancy Barnes	6/30/02
Lynn Sikes	6/30/02
Randy Johnson, Associate	6/30/02
Michele Auletta, Associate	6/30/02

Sexual Harassment Grievance Officer

Gary L. Brougham

Overseer of Willard Stebbins Account

Michael J. Reardon
Suzanne Bay (appt 9/12/01)
James Chevalier (appt 9/12/01)

Superintendent of Insect Pest Control

Steven J. Williams	6/30/02

Telecommunications Advisory Committee

Arthur L. Dunbar	6/30/02
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick	6/30/02
James P. Kearney	6/30/02
Frank Lomanno	6/30/02
Andrew J. Katafiasz (appt 4/23/01)	6/30/02
Gregory Bowler (deceased 1/30/01)	6/30/01

Assistant Town Clerk

Carol E. Hubbard (retired 12/31/01)	6/30/02
Colleen K. Toothill-Berte (appt. 12/5/01)	6/30/02

Treasurer-Collector

William R. Barnett	6/30/03

Assistant Treasurer/Collector

Lisa M. Banner	6/30/02

Deputy Collectors

Shirley Dillard (office)	8/2002
Arthur C. Jones	12/2002
William F. Corbett	12/2002

Town Counsel

Attorney Leonard Kopelman, Kopelman and Paige	6/30/02

Veterans Graves Officer

Vincent Viglione (appt 3/26/01)	3/31/02

Assistant Veterans Graves Officer

Kathleen Wood (appt 3/26/01)	3/31/02
John Milner (appt 3/26/01)	3/31/02

Veterans Services Agent

Robert C. Messier	6/30/02

Veterans Burial Agent

Robert C. Messier

War Memorial Committee

Francis A. Dudek	6/30/04
Edward T. Knight	6/30/03
F. Thomas Keefe	6/30/03
Leo Beauchemin	6/30/03
Peter G. Thorpe	6/30/02
Susan Gay, Assoc. (appt 6/25/01)	6/30/02
Herbert E. Squires (res. 5/1/01)	6/30/03

Zoning Board of Appeals

Richard G. Barry (appt 7/23/01)	6/30/04
Diane Loftus Mas	6/30/03
Raymond G. Goff (appt to regular mbr 8/6/01)	6/30/02
Sandra Webb (resigned 6/27/01)	6/30/02
John Milner, Associate Mbr.	6/30/02
Gregory A. Galanek, Assoc. Mbr. (appt 7/9/01)	6/30/02
Kevin LaCroix, Assoc. Mbr. (appt 8/6/01)	6/30/02

Zoning Enforcement Officer

Paul Adzima	6/30/02

Board of Selectmen
Front (left to right): Ronald Aponte; Michael Reardon, Chairman; Gerald Grasso. Rear (left to right): Steven Rose, Linda Barron

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Over this past decade our beautiful community has grown faster then any other community in Western Massachusetts. According to the latest census results Belchertown's population has increased by 23% during the past decade. There are many reasons for this growth, however two of the major factors are our excellent school system and a great deal of land for families wishing to build a new home. Belchertown schools continue to be amongst the highest scorers in the MCAS Test, and the young adults graduating from our High School are going on to continue their education in some of this country's most prestigious colleges and universities. Belchertown continued its expanding new home growth by 94 new homes this past year. Many of these families come to Belchertown from much larger towns and cities. These families come here wishing to establish their roots and raise their children in a small but progressive community.

With this increased growth came the need to increase the services. In the past 4 years we have built a new fire station, new police station, new senior center, new sewer treatment plant, and a new high school. We have provided new and larger locations for our ambulance service, Recreation Department, Teen Center, veterans' organization, local cable access Channel 5 and Family Center. Over this past year we have begun the planning stages to the Phase II Sewer Treatment Extension to the Tri-Lakes Region.

With these increased services there is a need to increase revenues. Approximately 50% of the Town's revenues come from state aide in the form of lottery receipts, Chapter 70 School Aide money, Chapter 90 Highway funds, Medicaid Reimbursements and grants. The other 50% of the revenues comes from business, home and property taxes, licenses, fees and fines. Belchertown's tax rate has been set for the upcoming year at $18.90 per thousand dollars of property valuation. Although the tax rate has been reduced by 8 cents per thousand, the actual valuation of homes has increased by over $10,000.00. The net result of this increased valuation per home is an average increase of $14.58 per month in property tax.

Currently Belchertown does not have any substantial business base and as a result the majority of the tax burden has been placed on the property owner. Belchertown's Economic Development Industrial Corporation (EDIC) has been working tirelessly with State Officials on finalizing a purchase and sale agreement for the land at the former Belchertown State School. It is hoped that this land will be developed into a commercial and light industrial area, and eventually provide a balance between residential and business taxation. We are hopeful that Stop & Shop will continue their construction of a new supermarket at the Milestone Crossing that is slated to open in 2002.

Unlike the past several years when Belchertown has been able to depend on state and federal aide to assist us as we grow, this next year's State Budget outlook is worrisome. Currently there are some projections that the State will see a deficit as high as two (2) billion dollars. After many years of unprecedented economic growth, our country is in the midst of an economic recession. Compounding this recession were the tragic events of September 11, 2001. As we watched in horror, the events of September 11, 2001, our hearts and minds were changed and our sense of safety and security were severely altered. The actions of those who wished to instill terror in our hearts failed to do so and in fact unified our country with one determined mission to rid the world of terror forever. We are now faced with a new world in which we cannot say that we are exempt from terrorism on our own land. In order to meet this challenge, local, state and federal authorities have rewritten their objectives to meet the challenge of making secure our nation and the rest of the world. With such an undertaking, we need to realize that funding for programs and services we have been receiving over the past several years may be reduced or not available. With many financial resources being redirected to state and national security, we need to be creative, giving and frugal. It is the Board of Selectmen's desire to continue our progressive path without having to dismantle years of progress. We have already taken steps to reduce the level of spending and have set aside additional money from Free Cash into the Town's Stabilization fund. We have set aside a half a million dollars in this fund to help get through the next year. We remain optimistic in a time where pessimism seems to want to take over. In this time if we work together as a community, we can overcome any obstacle set before us.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael J. Reardon, Chairman
Board of Selectmen

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Left to Right: Linda Barron, Selectman; Lorraine Zatyrka, Recipient; Lillian Glickman, Secretary of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs; Gary Brougham, Town Administrator

On November 8, 2001, Selectman Linda Barron and Town Administrator Gary Brougham accompanied Lorraine Zatyrka to the State House for the annual DOVE (Devoted, Outstanding Volunteers to Elders) ceremony hosted by the Executive Office of the Elder Affairs. Mrs. Zatyrka was recognized for her volunteer efforts on behalf of senior citizens. Congratulations, Lorraine!

Gary L. Brougham, Town Administrator

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town Administrator, working directly with the Board of Selectmen, is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Town.

As I enter my fifth year in this capacity, I constantly remind myself how this position, our Town and our world is changing. Although the changes on the local level have been growth driven and somewhat predictable, the changes on the State and Federal levels are another story. As we experience one incident after another of violence in our schools, one can only wonder what is the cause. When you think of the terrorist attacks on our nation on September 11, 2001, you again ask how can this be? This is the greatest nation in the world. How could anyone succeed in attacking our nation, our people, and our principles on our soil right before our eyes? As I watched in disbelief as the World Trade Center buildings were consumed in a fiery inferno, the news correspondent proved what facts were known about the morning's events. All too soon it became obvious that the two airliners that had crashed into the buildings had departed Boston and flown right over Western Massachusetts, quite possibility over Belchertown. Just minutes earlier. This was the moment I realized no one was impervious from the determination of these cold-blooded killers. It made no difference of your geographic location; we would all be affected by the terrorist attacks.

As a result of this our lives were reshaped, our freedoms eroded. The ability to move about the free world compromised and the pleasure of enjoying our own backyard restricted as witnessed by deployment of military personnel at the Quabbin Reservoir.

In spite of this, we must go about our business under the umbrella of new tighter airport security, constant tightening of policy manuals and rigorous regulations. These are unwelcome changes necessitated by the horrific acts of September 11, 2001; changes we will eventually become to know as routine. This is not to say Belchertown's progress will be restricted however.

As in past years, the residential development rate in Belchertown out paced all contiguous communities. In addition, we have experienced an increase in commercial development over recent years. As of this writing, progress remained strong on the following:

- Proposed Milestone Crossing – Stop & Shop Supermarket (November 1, 2002 grand opening planned).
- Cold Spring Golf Course – Banquet Facility.
- Creative Development – Business Technology Park, Routes 21 and 202.
- Eastern Hampshire District Courthouse.

- Crystal Springs Plaza – CVS expansion.

In addition, improvements/additions to the Town's infrastructure included:

- Ongoing construction of the new High School.
- Completion of the Stadler Street/ Springfield Road/Pine Valley Plantation sewers.
- Near completion of the fully renovated and expanded Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Completion of the Main Street and Maple Street intersection.
- Announced funding availability for the Tri-Lakes Sewer Project.
- Activation of the Freedom Center building for use by the Belchertown American Legion Post, Channel 5 and others to be announced.

As always, we like to acknowledge the services provided, however we never lose site of the financial impact they pose on our taxpayers. In a high growth community such as ours, the difficult task of meeting the additional needs of our community in a cost effective manner is both frustrating and challenging. Grant opportunities are on the decline, local taxes are something no one wishes to entertain, and borrowing only compounds the overall financial pictures. As a result of this, we strive to secure the grants and giveaways in spite of increased competition and use taxes and borrowing as a last resort in every situation.

As an essential component of our operation, staffing adjustments are made periodically to provide additional service or replace displaced employees. As a result of this, I am pleased to welcome the following employees to their respective positions:

- Robert Cole, Jr. – Department of Public Works
- Valerie Cote – Police Department
- William Fisher – Department of Emergency Medical Services
- Kevin Hannon – Assistant Computing Director
- Bill Korzenowski – Senior Center Director
- MaryJane Lemire – Senior Center
- Stephen Malandrinos – Computing Director
- Judi Searle – Department of Emergency Medical Services
- Colleen Toothill-Berte – Town Clerk's Office
- Jane Wolfe – Town Clerk/Collector-Treasurer's Office

I wish all of these individuals the best of luck as employees of the Town of Belchertown.

In addition, there are endless volunteer opportunities within our Town. In fact, I am confident we have an opportunity that was custom-made for any person's interest.

Considering the needs of the Belchertown Fair Committee, Family Center, Skate Park Committee, Public Access Channel 5, Recreation Department, Clapp Memorial Library, Historical Commission and Historic District Commission, Senior Center, Fire Department and countless others, we have a position for everyone regardless of your interests and time constraints. A simple call to the Selectmen's Office (323-0403) is all one must do to become involved.

As with our dedicated employees, the efforts of our hardworking volunteers often go unnoticed; consequently, I wish to also thank each one of you. Without your dedication and vision, the many memorable community events and services we have grown to anticipate and enjoy would not be possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary L. Brougham
Town Administrator

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is comprised on five non-compensated members who are appointed by the Town Moderator. No member may hold any other elected or appointed Town position during his or her term. The Board of Selectmen, other Town officers or other boards do not govern the Committee.

The two primary functions of the Committee are to:

- Serve as an advisory body to Town Meeting regarding fiscal matters, and
- Administer the Town's Reserve Fund

In its advisory capacity, the Committee reviews budget requests for each Town department, makes recommendations and presents the Town budget to Annual Town Meeting. The Committee also reviews Warrant Articles that have a financial impact to the Town and makes recommendations on these items at Annual or Special Town Meetings.

The Reserve Fund is the Town's emergency fund. It is utilized to fund unforeseen non-budgeted expenses that are time sensitive and cannot be postponed until Town Meeting.

For Fiscal Year 2002 (July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002) the Town's budgeted operating expenses have increased by approximately $1.1 million (4.2%) as compared to Fiscal Year 2001 appropriations. The majority of additional operating expenses are attributable to increases in school needs, which include the Belchertown School District and Pathfinder Regional, increases in pension and health insurance cost and public safety. Town departments grew marginally primarily due to increases in salaries and wages.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant and the sewer line extension project continue to require the Town to provide “initial investment” funding until user fees begin to offset the Town’s contribution and substantively assist with operating costs. Construction of the new high school has been completed and payments on the anticipated borrowing will begin during Fiscal Year 2003.

Due to budget constraints at both the state and town level, spending for the foreseeable future must be limited to “necessary priorities” for the Town of Belchertown. The continued growth in our population and the concurrent needs of the citizens of Belchertown will require prudent spending, careful planning for the future, and continued attention to other potential sources of revenue for this municipality.

As operating expenses continue to grow, requests for capital increase and revenue growth begins to slow. As a result, the Stabilization Fund has not increased as desired. The Finance Committee will seek any opportunity to increase the amount of funds in this set aside account. The Finance Committee is interested in following the progress of the Planning Board as they complete a Master Plan for the Town. The Committee is also watchful of any and all efforts that would result in increased revenues for the Town.

The Finance Committee is committed to act responsibly and examine each request made in the Department budgets, which comprise the overall operating budget for the Town. We are also committed to advising the Town Meeting on any capital appropriation in a manner that has reviewed factors including cost efficiency, cost savings and increased service, which will benefit the residents of Belchertown. We are in a position of working collaboratively with the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee during the annual budget process and as needs arise during the fiscal year with the common goal of providing quality services and maintaining prudent financial decision-making. It is with these things in mind that the Finance Committee exercises its responsibility to advise Town Meeting on matters which impact the amount of tax dollars paid by the residents and homeowners of Belchertown.

Respectfully submitted,

Finance Committee
Paul Silva, Chairman
Luc Hardyn, Vice-Chairman
David Reed, Clerk
Daniel Kloss
Elise Wright

REPORT OF TOWN ACCOUNTANT - ELEANOR GREEN

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Combined Balance Sheet
All Types, Funds, and Account Groups
for the Period Ended June 30, 2001

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Sewer Enterprise	Landfill Enterprise	Fiduciary Trust Funds	Long Term Debt	Totals (Memo Only)
ASSETS								
Cash	3,629,505.09	1,533,684.06	13,704,275.75	186,286.92	194,840.45	1,305,834.03		20,554,426.30
Petty Cash Advance		5,223.00						5,223.00
Accounts Receivable:								
Property Taxes	954,422.91							954,422.91
Property Taxes of 2002	6,138,686.80							6,138,686.80
Excise Taxes	150,682.21							150,682.21
Tax Liens	804,871.26			2,715.62				807,586.88
Special Assessments	316,025.13							316,025.13
Departmental	158,083.74			157,008.27				315,092.01
Less Allow. for Uncollectible	(498,299.74)							(498,299.74)
Tax Foreclosures	20,238.71							20,238.71
Lieu Taxes	11,790.44							11,790.44
Due From Other Governments	241,961.00	548,361.46	1,017,535.40					1,807,857.86
Amt. To be Provided-Notes Payable			30,940,525.00					30,940,525.00
Amt. To be Provided-Pmt of Debt							19,600,300.00	19,600,300.00
Amt. To be Prov.-Compensated Absences							1,071,614.00	1,071,614.00
Total Assets	11,927,967.55	2,087,268.52	45,662,336.15	346,010.81	194,840.45	1,305,834.03	20,671,914.00	82,196,171.51
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY								
Liabilities:								
Warrants Payable	1,458,931.54	157,082.70	203.87	31,192.93	21,018.98			1,668,430.02
Employee Withholdings	87,751.26	2,175.00						89,926.26
Petty Cash	40.00							40.00

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Combined Balance Sheet
All Types, Funds, and Account Groups
for the Period Ended June 30, 2001

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Sewer Enterprise	Landfill Enterprise	Fiduciary Trust Funds	Long Term Debt	Totals (Memo Only)
Deferred Revenue:								
Property Taxes	6,479,809.97							6,479,809.97
Excise Taxes	150,682.21							150,682.21
Tax Liens	804,871.26			2,715.62				807,586.88
Special Assessments	316,025.13							316,025.13
Lieu Taxes	11,790.44							11,790.44
Departmental	158,083.74			157,008.27				315,092.01
Tax Foreclosures	20,238.71							20,238.71
Government Receivable		548,361.46						548,361.46
Grant Receivable			742,459.00					742,459.00
MWPAT Receivable			275,076.40					275,076.40
Temporary Loan-Bond Anticipation			30,940,525.00					30,940,525.00
Unclaimed Checks	23,963.47							23,963.47
Bond Indebtedness							19,600,300.00	19,600,300.00
Compensated Absences							1,071,614.00	1,071,614.00
Total Liabilities	9,512,187.73	707,619.16	31,958,264.27	190,916.82	21,018.98	0.00	20,671,914.00	63,061,920.96
Fund Equity:								
Reserve for Encumbrances	605,120.03			20,800.00				625,920.03
Reserve for Expenditures		1,356,233.24			45,000.00			1,401,233.24
Fund Bal. Designated for Over/Under	(11,390.00)							(11,390.00)
Unreserved Fund Balance	1,822,049.79							1,822,049.79
Retained Earnings				134,293.99	128,821.47			263,115.46
Reserved Fund Balance			13,704,071.88			1,305,834.03		15,009,905.91
Title V Septic System Loan		23,416.12						23,416.12
Total Fund Equity	2,415,779.82	1,379,649.36	13,704,071.88	155,093.99	173,821.47	1,305,834.03	0.00	19,134,250.55
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	11,927,967.55	2,087,268.52	45,662,336.15	346,010.81	194,840.45	1,305,834.03	20,671,914.00	82,196,171.51

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
General Fund
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2001

ASSETS		
Cash		3,629,505.09
Accounts Receivable:		
Property Taxes	954,422.91	
Property Taxes of 2002	6,138,686.80	
Excise Taxes	150,682.21	
Tax Liens	804,871.26	
Special Assessments	316,025.13	
Lieu Taxes	11,790.44	
Departmental	158,083.74	
Less Allowance for Uncollectible	(498,299.74)	
		8,036,262.75
Due from Other Goernments		241,961.00
Tax Foreclosure		20,238.71
Total Assets		11,927,967.55
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY		
Liabilities:		
Warrants Payable		1,458,931.54
Employee Withholdings		87,751.26
Petty Cash		40.00
Deferred Revenue:		
Property Taxes	6,479,809.97	
Excise Taxes	150,682.21	
Tax Liens	804,871.26	
Special Assessments	316,025.13	
Lieu Taxes	11,790.44	
Departmental	158,083.74	
Tax Foreclosures	20,238.71	
		7,941,501.46
Unclaimed Checks		23,963.47
Total Liabilities		9,512,187.73
FUND EQUITY		
Reserve for Encumbrances		605,120.03
Fund Balance Designated for Over/Under		(11,390.00)
Unreserved Fund Balance		1,822,049.79
Total Fund Equity		2,415,779.82
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity		11,927,967.55

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2001

	GENERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS			ENTERPRISE FUNDS		FIDUCIARY TYPE	TOTALS
	General Fund	Special Rev.	Capital Funds	Sewer	Landfill	Expendable Trusts	(Memo. Only)
Revenue:							
Taxes	11,961,540.79						11,961,540.79
State Receipts	10,708,044.90						10,708,044.90
Excise Taxes	1,077,405.31						1,077,405.31
Tax Liens	142,626.97						142,626.97
Lieu Taxes	173,390.52						173,390.52
Licenses & Permits	187,993.20						187,993.20
Special Assessments	56,468.02						56,468.02
Interest	672,169.83	1,058.03				66,234.63	739,462.49
Fines & Forfeits	48,322.10						48,322.10
Departmental Revenue	281,398.73	977,565.91		543,660.36	168,923.85		1,971,548.85
Fees	22,520.55						22,520.55
Off-Set Receipts	56,507.15						56,507.15
Rentals	54,857.41						54,857.41
Umass Transit	28,762.00						28,762.00
Other Miscellaneous	15,281.80	298,562.23		96.50			313,940.53
Medicaid	317,151.00						317,151.00
Grants	30,042.66	1,630,879.82					1,660,922.48
Performance Guarantees		87,430.84					87,430.84
Gifts		54,468.42					54,468.42
MWPAT			3,917,912.15				3,917,912.15
Temporary Loans	160,000.00		24,900,000.00				25,060,000.00
Total Revenues	25,994,482.94	3,049,965.25	28,817,912.15	543,756.86	168,923.85	66,234.63	58,641,275.68
Expenditures:							
General Government	1,115,355.09	65,494.57				6,405.00	1,187,254.66
Protection of Persons & Property	1,704,614.22	191,577.32					1,896,191.54
Education	16,464,497.24	1,531,262.70					17,995,759.94
Public Works	1,277,296.48	589,350.99		374,506.28	216,643.14	800.00	2,458,596.89
Human Services	382,800.22	203,397.03				25,386.31	611,583.56
Culture & Recreation	502,833.61	198,017.06					700,850.67

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2001

	GENERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS			ENTERPRISE FUNDS		FIDUCIARY TYPE	TOTALS
	General Fund	Special Rev.	Capital Funds	Sewer	Landfill	Expendable Trusts	(Memo. Only)
Expenditures (continued):							
Insurance & Unclassified	1,665,539.25						1,665,539.25
Debt & Interest	1,762,917.07			442,777.42			2,205,694.49
State Assessments	340,915.00						340,915.00
Prior Year Expenditures	810,313.20						810,313.20
Temporary Loan		374,820.00					374,820.00
Construction			18,690,196.12				18,690,196.12
Equipment			17,571.62				17,571.62
Total Expenditures	26,027,081.38	3,153,919.67	18,707,767.74	817,283.70	216,643.14	32,591.31	48,955,286.94
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(32,598.44)	(103,954.42)	10,110,144.41	(273,526.84)	(47,719.29)	33,643.32	9,685,988.74
Other Financing Sources (Uses):							
Operating Transfers In	92,326.13	371,602.24	0.00	153,483.00	6,000.00	200,275.00	823,686.37
Operating Transfers Out	731,360.24	92,326.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	823,686.37
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	(639,034.11)	279,276.11	0.00	153,483.00	6,000.00	200,275.00	0.00
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Fin. Uses	(671,632.55)	175,321.69	10,110,144.41	(120,043.84)	(41,719.29)	233,918.32	9,685,988.74
Audit Adjustment	(10,071.74)					(558.81)	(10,630.55)
Fund Balance 7-1-00	3,097,484.11	1,201,279.67	3,593,927.47	275,137.83	215,540.76	418,051.18	8,801,421.02
Fund Balance 6-30-01	2,415,779.82	1,376,601.36	13,704,071.88	155,093.99	173,821.47	651,410.69	18,476,779.21

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
General Fund
Statement of Revenue, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2001

	Budget	Transfers	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:				
Taxes	11,943,948.52		11,961,540.79	17,592.27
State Receipts	10,511,619.00		10,708,044.90	196,425.90
Excise Taxes	965,000.00		1,077,405.31	112,405.31
Tax Liens	0.00		142,626.97	142,626.97
Lieu Taxes	140,000.00		173,390.52	33,390.52
Licenses & Permits	200,200.00		187,993.20	(12,206.80)
Special Assessments	30,000.00		56,468.02	26,468.02
Interest	452,500.00		672,169.83	219,669.83
Fines & Forfeits	75,000.00		48,322.10	(26,677.90)
Departmental Revenue	269,800.00		281,398.73	11,598.73
Fees	500.00		22,520.55	22,020.55
Off-Set Receipts	45,000.00		56,507.15	11,507.15
Rentals	36,500.00		54,857.41	18,357.41
Umass Transit	25,000.00		28,762.00	3,762.00
Other (Misc.)	0.00		332,432.80	332,432.80
FEMA Grant	0.00		30,042.66	30,042.66
DOE Loan	0.00		160,000.00	160,000.00
Total Revenues	24,695,067.52	0.00	25,994,482.94	1,299,415.42
Expenditures:				
General Government	1,191,028.85	(14,644.10)	1,115,355.09	61,029.66
Protection of Persons & Property	1,780,085.60	3,900.00	1,704,614.22	79,371.38
Education	16,480,085.00		16,464,497.24	15,587.76
Public Works	1,339,435.66	10,744.10	1,277,296.48	72,883.28
Human Services	455,498.67		382,800.22	72,698.45
Culture & Recreation	514,276.00		502,833.61	11,442.39
Insurance & Unclassified	1,930,721.40		1,665,539.25	265,182.15
Debt & Interest	2,074,993.00		1,762,917.07	312,075.93
State Assessments	93,368.00		340,915.00	(247,547.00)
Prior Year Expenditures	1,179,157.26		810,313.20	368,844.06
Total Expenditures	27,038,649.44	0.00	26,027,081.38	1,011,568.06
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures			(32,598.44)	
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Operating Transfers In	3,000.00	0.00	92,326.13	89,326.13
Operating Transfers Out	440,518.00	0.00	731,360.24	(290,842.24)
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	(437,518.00)	0.00	(639,034.11)	(201,516.11)
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Financing Uses			(671,632.55)	
Fund Balance 7/1/00			3,097,484.11	
Audit Adjustment			(10,071.74)	
Fund Balance 6/30/01			2,415,779.82	

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2001

	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY02
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
Moderator	$25.00		$25.00	$0.00	
Selectmen	$25,416.00		$24,731.31	$2,440.95	
Town Administrator	$72,050.00		$71,809.99	$240.01	
Cable Access TV Operations	$1,050.00		$1,049.80	$0.20	
Finance Committee	$527.00		$209.59	$317.41	
Reserve Fund	$30,000.00	($15,749.10)	$0.00	$14,250.90	
Town Accountant	$197,907.00		$195,975.32	$1,931.68	
MIS Director	$151,190.00		$150,545.17	$644.83	
Assessors	$196,664.00		$185,493.76	$11,170.24	
Treasurer/Collector	$201,834.00		$191,918.59	$9,915.41	
Law Account	$81,300.00	$1,105.00	$82,404.74	$0.26	
Town Clerk	$76,121.00		$64,827.72	$11,293.28	
Election & Registration	$18,300.00		$16,001.89	$2,298.11	
Conservation Commission	$53,770.00		$53,060.76	$709.24	
Pioneer Valley Planning	$1,586.85		$1,586.85	$0.00	
Planning Board	$69,700.00		$68,490.64	$1,209.36	
Zoning Board of Appeals	$4,388.00		$1,518.52	$2,869.48	
EDIC	$2,500.00		$2,500.00	$0.00	
Mobile Home Rent Control	$200.00		$0.00	$200.00	
Task Force-Broaden Tax Base	$2,500.00		$0.00	$2,500.00	
Printing Town Report	$4,000.00		$3,205.44	$794.56	
	$1,191,028.85	($14,644.10)	$1,115,355.09	$61,029.66	$0.00
PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY					
Police Department	$1,223,125.00		$1,170,244.68	$52,880.32	
Fire Department	$241,829.00		$241,788.46	$40.54	
Hydrant Service	$18,715.00		$18,714.40	$0.60	
EMS	$150,398.60	$3,900.00	$153,251.13	$1,047.47	
Injured on Duty	$12,000.00		$5,587.72	$6,412.28	
Inspection Services	$114,262.00		$96,044.18	$18,217.82	
Civil Defense	$1,670.00		$1,371.13	$298.87	$250.00
Dog Officer	$18,086.00		$17,612.52	$473.48	
	$1,780,085.60	$3,900.00	$1,704,614.22	$79,371.38	$250.00
EDUCATION					
Town Schools	$15,692,609.00		$15,677,021.24	$15,587.76	$15,587.76
Regional School	$787,476.00		$787,476.00	$0.00	
	$16,480,085.00	$0.00	$16,464,497.24	$15,587.76	$15,587.76

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2001

	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY02
PUBLIC WORKS					
Personal Services	$447,141.00		$435,878.22	$11,262.78	
Professional Engineering	$10,500.00		$6,775.77	$3,724.23	
Administration	$4,175.00		$3,968.98	$206.02	
Snow & Ice Control	$220,092.66		$205,991.75	$14,100.91	
Street Lighting	$30,000.00		$26,938.32	$3,061.68	
Road Machinery	$63,200.00		$62,209.89	$990.11	
Streets/Construction/Maint.	$67,300.00	$500.00	$67,762.88	$37.12	
Town Garage	$9,350.00	$6,086.70	$15,314.91	$121.79	
Hired Services	$50,800.00		$50,598.00	$202.00	
Maintenance/Grounds	$253,921.00		$226,045.30	$27,875.70	
Lawrence Memorial Hall	$38,590.00		$37,804.79	$785.21	
Finnerty House	$4,950.00		$4,124.88	$825.12	
EMS Building	$9,350.00		$8,176.85	$1,173.15	
Police Station	$38,190.00		$33,687.86	$4,502.14	
Senior Center Building	$31,598.00	$900.00	$32,452.03	$45.97	
Recreation Building	$15,470.00		$14,636.79	$833.21	
Freedom Center	$6,100.00	$3,257.40	$8,519.56	$837.84	
Old Town Hall	$5,284.00		$5,085.44	$198.56	
Town Common	$1,350.00		$1,081.44	$268.56	
Town Clock	$600.00		$509.40	$90.60	
Cemetery Department	$31,474.00		$29,733.42	$1,740.58	
	$1,339,435.66	$10,744.10	$1,277,296.48	$72,883.28	$0.00
HUMAN SERVICES					
Board of Health	$25,640.00		$9,459.81	$16,180.19	
Quabbin Health District	$79,146.67		$79,146.67	$0.00	
Clean Lakes	$10,000.00		$0.00	$10,000.00	$10,000.00
Council on Aging	$290,687.00		$259,167.03	$31,519.97	$1,600.00
Veterans' Services	$50,025.00		$35,026.71	$14,998.29	
	$455,498.67	$0.00	$382,800.22	$72,698.45	$11,600.00
CULTURE & RECREATION					
Clapp Memorial Library	$245,973.00		$241,616.25	$4,356.75	
Recreation Department	$141,546.00		$137,556.62	$3,989.38	
Recreation - Pool	$70,884.00		$70,033.98	$850.02	
Teen Center Operating	$36,480.00		$35,388.85	$1,091.15	
Town Beach	$18,245.00		$18,237.91	$7.09	
Historic District	$348.00		$0.00	$348.00	
Historical Comission	$500.00		$0.00	$500.00	
Patriotic Exercises	$300.00		$0.00	$300.00	
	$514,276.00	$0.00	$502,833.61	$11,442.39	$0.00

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2001

	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY02
INSURANCE & UNCLASSIFIED					
Unclassified	$41,300.00		$41,300.00	$0.00	
Council of Governments	$62,636.00		$62,636.00	$0.00	
Workers' Compensation	$36,203.00		$29,206.47	$6,996.53	
Pensions	$712,100.00		$711,600.00	$500.00	
Unemployment	$7,000.00		$915.44	$6,084.56	
Medicare-Town Share	$39,500.00		$39,248.13	$251.87	
Health Insurance-Town Share	$426,800.00		$423,993.66	$2,806.34	
Group Life-Town Share	$4,600.00		$3,440.82	$1,159.18	
One-Time & Capital FY01	$473,227.40		$248,099.79	$225,127.61	$223,171.47
General Insurance	$127,355.00		$105,098.94	$22,256.06	
	$1,930,721.40	$0.00	$1,665,539.25	$265,182.15	$223,171.47
DEBT & INTEREST					
Maturing Debt	$1,001,784.00		$1,001,000.00	$784.00	
Interest	$1,073,209.00		$1,052,759.31 *	$20,449.69	$290,842.24 *
	$2,074,993.00	$0.00	$2,053,759.31	$21,233.69	$290,842.24 *
ENCUMBERED FUNDS					
General Government	$7,998.00		$6,678.00	$1,320.00	$1,250.00
Protection of Persons & Prop.	$5,143.97		$5,143.97	$0.00	
School Department	$316,814.44		$315,629.74	$1,184.70	
Public Works	$18,139.52		$6,906.83	$11,232.69	$3,176.69
Human Services	$10,068.51		$10,066.01	$2.50	
Culture & Recreation	$460.00		$460.00	$0.00	
Insurance & Unclassified	$772,138.85		$465,428.65	$306,710.20	$301,690.14
BSS Infrastructure	$28,393.97		$0.00	$28,393.97	$28,393.97
Development Rights	$20,000.00		$0.00	$20,000.00	$20,000.00
	$1,179,157.26	$0.00	$810,313.20	$368,844.06	$354,510.80

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2001

	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY02
SUMMARY					
General Government	$1,189,442.00	($14,644.10)	$1,113,768.24	$61,029.66	$0.00
Protection of Persons/Property	$1,780,085.60	$3,900.00	$1,704,614.22	$79,371.38	$250.00
Education	$16,480,085.00	$0.00	$16,464,497.24	$15,587.76	$15,587.76
Public Works	$1,339,435.66	$10,744.10	$1,277,296.48	$72,883.28	$0.00
Human Services	$455,498.67	$0.00	$382,800.22	$72,698.45	$11,600.00
Culture & Recreation	$514,276.00	$0.00	$502,833.61	$11,442.39	$0.00
Insurance & Unclassified	$1,930,721.40	$0.00	$1,665,539.25	$265,182.15	$223,171.47
Debt & Interest	$2,074,993.00	$0.00	$2,053,759.31 *	$21,233.69 *	
	$25,764,537.33	$0.00	$25,165,108.57	$599,428.76	$250,609.23
Encumbered Funds	$1,179,157.26	$0.00	$810,313.20	$368,844.06	$354,510.80
TOTALS	$26,943,694.59	$0.00	$25,975,421.77	$968,272.82	$605,120.03

*$290,842.24 transferred to Special Revenue

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts

Amortization Schedule
June 30, 2001

	Principal	Interest	Total
2002	1,422,382.53	535,637.09	1,958,019.62
2003	1,432,327.89	486,398.78	1,918,726.67
2004	1,457,313.00	435,470.49	1,892,783.49
2005	1,074,130.94	393,234.29	1,467,365.23
2006	812,051.88	359,173.01	1,171,224.89
2007	876,813.46	332,513.92	1,209,327.38
2008	869,349.49	304,101.06	1,173,450.55
2009	916,065.51	275,997.63	1,192,063.14
2010	974,551.08	243,923.68	1,218,474.76
2011	1,009,218.13	209,813.29	1,219,031.42
2012	1,045,102.74	173,528.52	1,218,631.26
2013	966,789.14	252,157.64	1,218,946.78
2014	1,135,334.20	105,211.22	1,240,545.42
2015	1,141,150.67	63,470.59	1,204,621.26
2016	497,360.04	21,618.41	518,978.45
2017	503,757.86	11,946.37	515,704.23
2018	514,785.82	2,315.17	517,100.99
2019	525,954.62	0.00	525,954.62
2020	90,555.13	0.00	90,555.13
	17,264,994.13	4,206,511.16	21,471,505.29

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Non-Expendable Trust Funds
Statement of Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2001

	Balance 7/1/2000	Additions	Balance 6/30/2001
Poor Funds:			
Susan M. D. Bridgman	512,860.69		512,860.69
Whiting Street	10,000.00		10,000.00
School Funds:			
George W. Longley Music	2,000.00		2,000.00
Calvin Bridgman High School	6,000.00		6,000.00
Library Fund:			
Calvin Bridgman Library	4,000.00		4,000.00
Town Clock Fund:			
Fank Scialla Memorial	2,100.00		2,100.00
Senior Center Fund:			
Senior Center Memorial	10,585.51	290.00	10,875.51
Penson Fund:			
Pensions	10,000.00		10,000.00
Cemetery Funds:			
Perpetual Care	89,687.14	3,900.00	93,587.14
Susan M. D. Bridgman	200.00		200.00
Nellie E. Brown	1,000.00		1,000.00
Willard Stebbins	1,500.00		1,500.00
Vianna E. Somes	300.00		300.00
	650,233.34	4,190.00	654,423.34

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Expendable Trust Funds
Statement of Changes in Fund Balance
For Period Ended June 30, 2001

	Balance 7/1/2000	Additions	Income	Expended	Transferred In/(Out)	Audit Adjustment	Reserved	Undesignated Fund Balance	Balance 6/30/2001
Poor Funds:									
Susan M. D. Bridgman	$110,198.46		$38,221.32	$25,056.31		($558.81)		$122,804.66	$122,804.66
Whiting Street	$38,748.00		$2,172.00	$330.00				$40,590.00	$40,590.00
School Funds:									
George W. Longley Music	$3,292.44		$237.00					$3,529.44	$3,529.44
Calvin Bridgman High School	$9,704.16		$703.26					$10,407.42	$10,407.42
Library Fund:									
Calvin Bridgman Library	$457.66		$199.62					$657.28	$657.28
Town Clock Fund:									
Fank Scialla Memorial	$2,755.01		$217.41					$2,972.42	$2,972.42
Senior Center Fund:									
Senior Center Memorial	$2,199.42		$581.91					$2,781.33	$2,781.33
Cemetery Funds:									
Perpetual Care	$15,684.08		$6,245.85	$450.00				$21,479.93	$21,479.93
Susan M.D. Bridgman	$1,008.19		$54.10					$1,062.29	$1,062.29
Nellie E. Brown	$3,750.00		$208.94	$350.00				$3,608.94	$3,608.94
Willard Stebbins	$1,156.14		$280.16					$1,436.30	$1,436.30
Vianna E. Somes	$1,858.76		$96.67					$1,955.43	$1,955.43
E. Schmidt Memorial	$264.90						$264.90		$264.90
Penson Fund	$12,068.25		$1,323.23					$13,391.48	$13,391.48
Conservation Fund	$2,253.14	$5,000.00	$57.05	$6,405.00				$905.19	$905.19
Stabilization Fund	$190,351.61	$173,275.00	$14,637.45					$378,264.06	$378,264.06
Workers' Compensation Fund	$22,300.96	$22,000.00	$998.66					$45,299.62	$45,299.62
	$418,051.18	$200,275.00	$66,234.63	$32,591.31	$0.00	($558.81)	$264.90	$651,145.79	$651,410.69

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Schedule of Indebtedness
June 30, 2001

	Loan Issued	Rate	Outstanding 7/1/2000	Reduced FY2001	Outstanding 6/30/2001	Due In FY2002
Daigle Well Water Loan	1994	5.00	433,000.00	31,000.00	402,000.00	31,000.00
School Loans:						
Middle School	1992	4.55	1,740,000.00	455,000.00	1,285,000.00	450,000.00
Elementary	1996	4.87	8,110,000.00	515,000.00	7,595,000.00	545,000.00
Sewer Loans:						
Relining Loan	1995	0.00	40,816.00	9,846.00	30,970.00	7,716.00
WWTP	1999	0.00	8,257,400.00	360,400.00	7,897,000.00	306,020.00
Stadler Street	1999	0.00	511,632.00	20,321.00	491,311.00	16,726.00
Springfield Road	1999	0.00	609,495.00	24,255.00	585,240.00	19,949.00
Pine Valley	1999	0.00	1,290,199.00	51,420.00	1,238,779.00	42,222.00
Board of Health: Title V	1999	0.00	75,000.00	0.00	75,000.00	3,750.00
			21,067,542.00	1,467,242.00	19,600,300.00	1,422,383.00

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER
JULY 1, 2000 - JUNE 30,2001

CASH ON HAND 6/30/2000	$	10,859,123.32	PAYMENTS AS AUTHORIZED	$	59,121,370.28
RECEIPTS	$	68,816,673.26	CASH ON HAND 6/30/2001	$	20,554,426.30
	$	79,675,796.58		$	79,675,796.58

INTEREST INCOME FROM SAVINGS DEPOSITS, INVESTMENTS, BUT EXCLUDING TRUST FUNDS, SPECIAL ACCTS & STABILIZATION FUND $ 442,153.95

TRUST FUNDS AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNT	BALANCE 6/30/2000	DEPOSITS	INTEREST & DIVIDENDS	TRANSFERS&W/D	BALANCE 6/30/2001
SCHOOL FUNDS					
C. BRIDGMAN (H.S.)	$ 15,704.16		$ 703.26		$ 16,407.42
GEORGE LONGLEY	$ 5,292.44		$ 237.00		$ 5,529.44
CEMETERY FUNDS					
SUSAN BRIDGMAN	$ 1,208.19		$ 54.10		$ 1,262.29
WILLARD STEBBINS	$ 6,256.14		$ 280.16		$ 6,536.30
VIANNA SOMES	$ 2,158.76		$ 96.67		$ 2,255.43
NELLIE BROWN	$ 4,790.00		$ 208.94	$ (350.00)	$ 4,648.94
PERPETUAL CARE	$ 9,487.48	$ 3,150.00	$ 475.96	$ (150.00)	$ 12,963.44
PERPETUAL CARE (MMDT)	$ 96,228.16		$ 5,769.89		$ 101,998.05
POOR FUNDS					
SUSAN BRIDGMAN	$ 73,551.64		$ 3,027.26	$ (16,709.46)	$ 59,869.44
WHITING STREET	$ 48,748.00		$ 2,172.00	$ (330.00)	$ 50,590.00
S. BRIDGMAN (STOCK INVESTMENT)	$ 548,469.96		$ 35,194.06		$ 583,664.02
MISC FUNDS					
F. SCIALLA (CLOCK)	$ 4,855.01		$ 217.41		$ 5,072.42
C. BRIDGMAN (LIBRARY)	$ 4,457.66		$ 199.62		$ 4,657.28
CONSERVATION	$ 1,633.14	$ 5,000.00	$ 57.05	$ (4,505.00)	$ 2,185.19
SENIOR CENTER	$ 12,838.77	$ 290.00	$ 581.91		$ 13,710.68
PENSION RESERVE	$ 22,068.25		$ 1,323.23		$ 23,391.48
STABILIZATION FUND	$ 215,351.61	$ 148,275.00	$ 14,637.45		$ 378,264.06
WORKERS COMPENSATION TRUST	$ 22,300.96		$ 998.66		$ 23,299.62
TOTALS	$ 1,095,400.33	$ 156,715.00	$ 66,234.63	$ (22,044.46)	$ 1,296,305.50

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER
JULY 1, 2000 - JUNE 30,2001

FUNDS BORROWED DURING THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2000 - JUNE 30, 2001

NOTE# & PURPOSE	FROM	DATED		AMOUNT		DUE DATE	INTEREST RATE
#945 - RENEWAL- SR CENTER & POLICE	BANK OF WESTERN MASS	8/28/2000	$	625,000.00		8/28/2001	4.75%
#946 - RENEWAL - SR CENTER & POLICE	FIRST MASS BANK	8/28/2000	$	315,525.00		8/28/2001	4.86%
#947 - NEW - HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION	CEDE & CO.	10/11/2000	$	1,500,000.00		10/11/2001	4.77%
#948 - NEW - HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION	CHARTER ONE BANK	10/11/2000	$	500,000.00		10/11/2001	4.80%
#949 - NEW- HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION	CEDE & CO.	10/11/2000	$	2,000,000.00		10/11/2001	4.89%
#950 - NEW- HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION	CHARTER ONE BANK	10/11/2000	$	900,000.00		10/11/2001	4.95%
#951- RENEWAL- HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION	CEDE & CO.	3/16/2001	$	5,100,000.00		1/25/2002	4.00%
NEW- HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION	TGH SECURITIES	3/29/2001	$	5,000,000.00		1/25/2002	3.50%
NEW- HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION	FIRST ALBANY CORP.	6/21/2001	$	15,000,000.00	**	1/25/2002	3.00%
				**(+ PREMIUM $26,250)			
#952-956-NEW- SPECIAL EDUCATION	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	6/29/2001	$	160,000.00		3/31/2006	0.00%

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

WILLIAM R. BARNETT
TOWN TREASURER

TOWN TAX COLLECTOR
7/1/2000 - 6/30/2001

FISCAL 1975 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	101.20
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	101.20		
	$	101.20	$	101.20

FISCAL 1976 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	234.60
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	234.60		
	$	234.60	$	234.60

FISCAL 1979 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	891.48
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	891.48		
	$	891.48	$	891.48

ISCAL 1980 REAL ESTATE				
UTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	957.60
OLLECTED	$	-		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	957.60		
	$	957.60	$	957.60

ISCAL 1981 REAL ESTATE				
UTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	792.40
OLLECTED	$	-		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	792.40		
	$	792.40	$	792.40

SCAL 1982 REAL ESTATE				
UTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	1,163.14
OLLECTED	$	-		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	1,163.14		
	$	1,163.14	$	1,163.14

SCAL 1984 REAL ESTATE				
JTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	72.59
LLECTED	$	-		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	72.59		
	$	72.59	$	72.59

CAL 1988 REAL ESTATE				
TSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	64.25
LLECTED	$	-		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	64.25		
	$	64.25	$	64.25

FISCAL 1989 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	178.60
COLLECTED	$	77.66		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	100.94		
	$	178.60	$	178.60

FISCAL 1990 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	157.44
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	157.44		
	$	157.44	$	157.44

FISCAL 1991 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	521.98
TO TAX TITLE	$	98.31		
ABATED	$	6.07		
COLLECTED	$	146.01		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000	$	271.59		
	$	521.98		

FISCAL 1992 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	312.86
TO TAX TITLE	$	180.50		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	132.36		
	$	312.86		

FISCAL 1993 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	50.52
AUDIT ADJUSTMENT			$	820.28
TO TAX TITLE	$	84.79		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	786.01		
	$	870.80	$	870.80

FISCAL 1994 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/1999			$	2,114.14
TO TAX TITLE	$	13.43		
COLLECTED	$	804.97		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000	$	1,295.74		
	$	2,114.14	$	2,114.14

FISCAL 1995 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	4,023.24
TO TAX TITLE	$	16.09		
ABATED	$	3.12		
COLLECTED	$	1,920.14		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	2,083.89		
	$	4,023.24	$	4,023.24

TOWN TAX COLLECTOR
7/1/2000 - 6/30/2001

FISCAL 1996 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 12,280.41
TO TAX TITLE	$ 24.56	
ABATED	$ 13.10	
COLLECTED	$ 7,509.54	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 4,733.21	
	$ 12,280.41	
FISCAL 1997 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 35,570.90
TO TAX TITLE	$ 3,740.68	
ABATED	$ 1,103.39	
COLLECTED	$ 17,663.14	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 13,063.69	
	$ 35,570.90	
FISCAL 1998 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 99,130.38
TO TAX TITLE	$ 6,695.63	
COLLECTED	$ 30,032.36	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 62,402.39	
	$ 99,130.38	$ 99,130.38
FISCAL 1999 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 168,468.57
TAX TITLE	$ 4,454.64	
ABATED	$ 1,213.12	
COLLECTED	$ 58,706.94	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 104,093.87	
	$ 168,468.57	$ 168,468.57
FISCAL 2000 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 418,108.45
COMMITTED FOR COLL		$ 122.14
TO TAX TITLE	$ 11,260.67	
ABATED	$ 137.01	
COLLECTED	$ 191,700.34	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 215,132.57	
	$ 418,230.59	$ 418,230.59
FISCAL 2001 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 5,632,933.11
COMMITTED		$ 6,107,240.33
REFUNDED		$ 36,730.36
ABATED	$ 51,893.07	
COLLECTED	$ 11,291,665.12	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 433,345.61	
	$ 11,776,903.80	$ 11,776,903.80

FISCAL 2002 REAL ESTATE		
COMMITTED FOR COLL.		$ 6,028,120.9
COLLECTED	$ 39,385.75	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 5,988,735.17	
	$ 6,028,120.92	$ 6,028,120.9
FISCAL 1988 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 328.6
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 328.64	
	$ 328.64	$ 328.6
FISCAL 1989 PERS.PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 421.9
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 421.94	
	$ 421.94	$ 421.9
FISCAL 1990 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 2,445.4
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 2,445.44	
	$ 2,445.44	$ 2,445.4
FISCAL 1991 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 1,211.4
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 1,211.49	
	$ 1,211.49	$ 1,211.4
FISCAL 1992 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 2,055.3
COLLECTED	$ 83.30	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 1,972.06	
	$ 2,055.36	$ 2,055.3
FISCAL 1993 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 3,830.
COLLECTED	$ 101.74	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 3,728.27	
	$ 3,830.01	$ 3,830.
FISCAL 1994 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 6,410.
COLLECTED	$ 125.33	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 6,284.86	
	$ 6,410.19	$ 6,410.
FISCAL 1995 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000		$ 7,855.
COLLECTED	$ 129.91	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ 7,725.47	
	$ 7,855.38	$ 7,855.

TOWN TAX COLLECTOR
7/1/2000 - 6/30/2001

ISCAL 1996 PERS. PROP				
UTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	12,759.06
OLLECTED	$	193.17		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	12,565.89		
	$	12,759.06	$	12,759.06

SCAL 1997 PERS. PROP				
UTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	6,231.09
OLLECTED	$	59.56		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	6,171.53		
	$	6,231.09	$	6,231.09

SCAL 1998 PERS.PROP				
JTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	4,439.08
OLLECTED	$	105.60		
JTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	4,333.48		
	$	4,439.08	$	4,439.08

SCAL 1999 PERS. PROP				
JTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	4,518.42
LLECTED	$	95.74		
JTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	4,422.68		
	$	4,518.42	$	4,518.42

SCAL 2000 PERS. PROP				
TSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	5,585.27
FUNDED			$	43.25
LLECTED	$	3,321.21		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	2,307.31		
	$	5,628.52	$	5,628.52

CAL 2001 PERS. PROP				
TSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	149,571.14
MMITTED FOR COLL.			$	154,005.44
FUNDED			$	1,949.56
ATED	$	4.56		
LLECTED	$	299,374.25		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	6,147.33		
	$	305,526.14	$	305,526.14

CAL 2002 PERS.PROP				
MMITTED FOR COLL.			$	149,987.25
LLECTED	$	35.62		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	149,951.63		
	$	149,987.25	$	149,987.25

3 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
STANDING 6/30/2000			$	107.50
LECTED	$	-		
STANDING 6/30/2001	$	107.50		
	$	107.50	$	107.50

FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
STANDING 6/30/2000			$	148.50
LECTED	$	-		
STANDING 6/30/2001	$	148.50		
	$	148.50	$	148.50

1985 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	115.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	115.50		
	$	115.50	$	115.50

1986 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	59.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	59.00		
	$	59.00	$	59.00

1987 FARM ANIMAL EXC				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	59.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	59.00		
	$	59.00	$	59.00

1988 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	279.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	279.00		
	$	279.00	$	279.00

1989 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	174.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	174.50		
	$	174.50	$	174.50

1990 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	263.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	263.50		
	$	263.50	$	263.50

1991 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	246.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	246.50		
	$	246.50	$	246.50

1992 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	230.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	230.50		
	$	230.50	$	230.50

1993 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	1,146.38
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	1,146.38		
	$	1,146.38	$	1,146.38

1994 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	1,142.66
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	1,142.66		
	$	1,142.66	$	1,142.66

TOWN TAX COLLECTOR
7/1/2000 - 6/30/2001

1995 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	171.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	171.00		
	$	171.00	$	171.00

1996 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	536.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	536.50		
	$	536.50	$	536.50

1997 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	160.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000	$	160.50		
	$	160.50	$	160.50

1998 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	75.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	75.00		
	$	75.00	$	75.00

1999 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	1,454.00
COLLECTED	$	1,282.00		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	172.00		
	$	1,454.00	$	1,454.00

2000 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE

COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	1,862.05
COLLECTED	$	500.45		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	1,361.60		
	$	1,862.05	$	1,862.05

1997 SEWER LIENS

OUTSTANDING 6/10/2000			$	121.74
COLLECTED	$	121.74		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	-		
	$	121.74	$	121.74

1998 SEWER LIENS

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	925.77
COLLECTED	$	433.38		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	492.39		
	$	925.77	$	925.77

1999 SEWER LIENS

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	1,035.70
COLLECTED	$	443.77		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	591.93		
	$	1,035.70	$	1,035.70

2000 SEWER LIENS

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	9,083.9
COLLECTED	$	708.03		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	8,375.91		
	$	9,083.94	$	9,083.9

1999 SEWER CHARGES
SUBS: 2001 SEWER LIENS

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	47,399.0
COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	1,762.4
REFUNDED			$	365.8
ABATED	$	731.76		
COLLECTED	$	43,065.21		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	5,730.39		
	$	49,527.36	$	49,527.3

2000 SEWER CHARGES

OUSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	37,089.8
COMMITTED FOR COLL			$	364,661.0
ABATED	$	546.66		
COLLECTED	$	361,469.82		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	39,734.35		
	$	401,750.83	$	401,750.8

2001 SEWER CHARGES

COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	233,867.5
COLLECTED	$	131,784.29		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	102,083.30		
	$	233,867.59	$	233,867.5

1994 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	6,745.6
COLLECTED	$	97.08		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	6,648.57		
	$	6,745.65	$	6,745.6

1995 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	4,971.5
COLLECTED	$	226.35		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	4,745.16		
	$	4,971.51	$	4,971.5

1996 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	6,409.0
COLLECTED	$	272.73		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	6,136.29		
	$	6,409.02	$	6,409.0

1997 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	8,699.
COLLECTED	$	917.81		
ABATED	$	31.25		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	7,750.07		
	$	8,699.13		

TOWN TAX COLLECTOR
7/1/2000 - 6/30/2001

98 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC				
UTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	9,734.98
OLLECTED	$	1,873.68		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	7,861.30		
	$	9,734.98	$	9,734.98

99 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC				
UTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	23,805.97
OMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	11,655.13
EFUNDED			$	422.63
ATED	$	3,207.94		
LLECTED	$	20,468.80		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	12,206.99		
	$	35,883.73	$	35,883.73

00 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC				
TSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	73,660.41
MMITTED FOR COLL.			$	208,892.53
FUNDED			$	9,421.49
ATED	$	17,026.53		
LLECTED	$	248,304.89		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	26,643.01		
	$	291,974.43	$	291,974.43

1 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC				
MMITTED FOR COLL.			$	912,715.05
FUNDED			$	5,141.70
ATED	$	28,232.18		
LLECTED	$	817,276.39		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	72,348.18		
	$	917,856.75	$	917,856.75

7 DAIGLE WELL BETT.				
TSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	51.27
LECTED	$	51.27		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	-		
	$	51.27	$	51.27

3 DAIGLE WELL BETT.				
TSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	49.95
LLECTED	$	49.95		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	-		
	$	49.95	$	49.95

DAIGLE WELL BETT.				
STANDING 6/30/2000			$	453.64
LECTED	$	453.64		
STANDING 6/30/2001	$	-		
	$	453.64	$	453.64

2000 DAIGLE WELL BETT.				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	1,833.04
COLLECTED	$	1,332.96		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	500.08		
	$	1,833.04	$	1,833.04

2001 DAIGLE WELL BETT.				
COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	27,615.03
COLLECTED	$	26,015.62		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	1,599.41		
	$	27,615.03	$	27,615.03

BETTERMENT IN ADVANCE				
COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	21,397.18
COLLECTED	$	21,397.18		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	-		
	$	21,397.18	$	21,397.18

2001 SEPTIC LOAN				
COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	9,274.37
COLLECTED	$	9,274.37		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	-		
	$	9,274.37	$	9,274.37

SEPTIC LOAN IN ADVANCE				
COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	10,678.61
COLLECTED	$	10,678.61		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	-		
	$	10,678.61	$	10,678.61

MISCELLANEOUS REC.				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	71,246.24
COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	31,613.19
COLLECTED	$	38,589.04		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	64,270.39		
	$	102,859.43	$	102,859.43

SEWER CONNECTIONS				
COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	7,000.00
COLLECTED	$	7,000.00		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	-		
	$	7,000.00	$	7,000.00

AMBULANCE ACCOUNT				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2000			$	53,795.17
COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	329,110.97
REFUNDED			$	2,264.76
ABATED	$	50,356.12		
COLLECTED	$	198,573.48		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$	136,241.30		
	$	385,170.90	$	385,170.90

TOWN TAX COLLECTOR
7/1/2000 - 6/30/2001

TOTAL COLLECTIONS	JULY 1,2000 - JUNE 30,2001		$	13,779,305.29
AMBULANCE ACCT			$	198,573.48
SEWER CONNECTIONS			$	7,000.00
		TOTAL	$	13,984,878.77

TAXES,LIENS,EXCISES		$	13,680,326.46
INTEREST/FEES		$	98,978.83
AMBULANCE ACCT		$	198,573.48
SEWER CONNECTIONS		$	7,000.00
	TOTAL	$	13,984,878.77

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

WILLIAM R. BARNETT
TOWN AND TAX COLLECTOR

2001 VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Place	Male	Female
Belchertown	1	1
Holyoke	5	1
Northampton	25	24
Southbridge	1	1
Springfield	49	34
Ware	10	9
Worcester	1	
	92	70

MARRIAGES

Intentions Filed in Belchertown

	Males	Females
Belchertown Residents	60	59
Non-Residents	12	13
	72	72

Married in Belchertown:	35
Married Out-of-Town:	37

DEATHS

Males: 42; Females: 34
Belchertown Residents: 73
Non-Residents: 3

Place of Death	
Agawam	1
Belchertown	28
Burlington	1
East Longmeadow	1
Hadley	4
Holyoke	6
Ludlow	1
Northampton	3
Palmer	8

Place of Death	
South Hadley	3
Springfield	9
Sunderland	1
Ware	3
Westfield	1
West Springfield	1
Wilbraham	3
Worcester	2

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

1999 Vital Statistic received after filing of last year's report:

Place	Male	Female
Holyoke		1

2000 Vital Statistic received after filing of last year's report:

Place	Male	Female
Russia		1

No Additional Marriages

DEATHS

2000 Vital Statistics received after filing of last year's report:

		Males	Females
Belchertown Residents:	4	3	1
Non-Residents:	0		

Place of Death:	Boston:	1
	Newton:	1
	Springfield:	2

TOWN CLERK 2001
MONTHLY FINANCIALS

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
SPORTING LICENSE (GROSS)	1525.70	455.55	841.60	1505.35	1034.55	925.15	390.80	185.10	175.10	140.60	347.10	2559.70	10086.30
SPORTING ADMIN FEES	43.00	13.00	27.00	53.00	38.00	28.00	10.00	7.00	6.00	3.00	9.00	66.00	303.00
DOG LICENSE (GROSS)	1040.00	922.00	1206.00	1538.00	842.00	430.00	382.00	232.00	1904.00	344.00	486.00	512.00	9838.00
B-M-D CERTIFIED COPIES	255.00	355.00	475.00	385.00	315.00	315.00	275.00	222.00	278.00	185.00	255.00	180.00	3495.00
B-M-D ABSTRACT COPIES	4.00							8.00					12.00
MARRIAGE INTENTIONS	40.00		10.00	80.00	60.00	70.00	110.00	70.00	70.00	90.00	60.00	90.00	750.00
UCC & TERMINATIONS	203.00	135.00	117.00	125.00	195.00	155.00	25.00			22.00			977.00
POLE ORDERS	20.00	40.00	20.00	40.00			60.00	40.00	20.00	40.00	20.00	20.00	320.00
ZONING/SUBDIVISION REGS	25.00	75.00	75.00	175.00	200.00	125.00	100.00	150.00	100.00	75.00	250.00		1350.00
PLANNING BOARD FEES	1275.00	150.00	120.00	260.00	390.00	830.00	835.00	180.00	1345.00	485.00	365.00	100.00	6335.00
BOARD OF APPEALS FEES	100.00		100.00	200.00	400.00		300.00	246.00	200.00	100.00	100.00		1746.00
CONSERVATION TRAIL MAPS	7.00	3.00	4.00	20.00	12.00	12.00	6.00	14.00	18.00	8.00	12.00		116.00
FUEL & GAS REGISTRATION				2.50	30.00			2.50					35.00
BUSINESS REGISTRATION	40.00	60.00	60.00	50.00	40.00	20.00	30.00	70.00	50.00	40.00	40.00	100.00	600.00
RAFFLE PERMITS		10.00	10.00			10.00		60.00		10.00	10.00		110.00
STREET LIST	60.00	100.00	40.00	80.00	60.00	20.00		20.00	20.00	40.00	40.00	20.00	500.00
VOTER ID CARDS	10.00						20.00				5.00		35.00
HOMESTEAD FILINGS			10.00				10.00		10.00				30.00
PARKING CITATIONS/FILINGS	25.00	15.00					40.00			25.00			105.00
HISTORIC DISTRICT FILINGS				50.00					75.00				125.00
BURIAL PERMITS	30.00	60.00	60.00	45.00	60.00	45.00	45.00	15.00	15.00		15.00	15.00	405.00
DOG FINES							10.00			515.00	406.00	60.00	991.00
EVICTION NOTICE													0
DECLARATION OF TRUST													0
MISC SALES	23.00	0.60	16.38	5.20	10.90	20.50	19.20	9.44	3.60	5.20	0.40	14.85	129.27
TOTAL	4725.70	2394.15	3191.98	4614.05	3687.45	3005.65	2668.00	1531.04	4289.70	2127.80	2420.50	3737.55	38393.57

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) COMMITTEE

The Americans With Disabilities Committee met every first Tuesday of every other month at 10:30 a.m. during the year 2001 in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

Members serving on the Committee were Paul Adzima, ADA Liaison; Gary Brougham, Town Administrator; Judy Metcalf, Board of Health Department Head; Michael Krzystofik, School Department; Steve Williams, Highway Department; Ruthella Tucker and Sally Dodge. Ted Fuller, of the Maintenance Department, served on the Committee until he resigned his position in September. Lee Concheri resigned her position on the Committee in April.

The goal of this Committee is to acquire a Braille Embosser for the purpose of providing public information to the sight impaired as required by the ADA Act. The cost of this acquisition and its' software is around $2335.00.

The ADA Committee invites public opinion and concerns to help ensure the safety of all our handicapped citizens.

BOARD OF APPEALS

In the past year, the Board of Appeals received 21 applications for special permits, variances and appeals. Of the 21 applications, 7 were special permits, 13 variance requests and 1 appeal. Two special permits were denied and the appeal was denied. One special permit granted by the Board has been appealed and is awaiting decision by the Courts.

The members of the Board of Appeals would be like to use this opportunity to give special thanks to Michael Roncolato for the many dedicated years of service he gave to the Board of Appeals.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Loftus Mas, Chairman
Raymond Goff, Vice Chairman
Richard Barry, Member
Kevin LaCroix, Associate Member
Gregory Galanek, Associate Member

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

During 2001, the Board of Assessors experienced no personnel changes as Samuel Joyal was re-elected by the voters of Belchertown. Michel Forgue, Chairman; and Deborah Sammataro, Vice Chairman rounded out the Board.

Because of sound fiscal management, Belchertown's financial outlook remained strong once again. Important figures in establishing the FY01 budget included:

Total Taxable Value:	636,152,546
Town Meeting Appropriations:	$27,098,299
Estimated Receipts/Revenue Sources:	$15,024,123
Levy Limit and Debt Exclusions:	$12,304,925
Tax Levy:	$12,074,175
New Growth:	$556,910
FY01 Tax Rate:	$18.98

The Board acted upon all timely filed tax abatement applications along with exemption applications for qualifying disabled veterans, elderly, widowed and blind property owners. The Assessors conducted an interim year adjustment of the Town's valuations for fiscal year 2001. The Board is confident that properties in town are being valued fairly and equitably according to mass appraisal standards.

The Belchertown Board of Assessors along with the entire Assessing staff is committed to providing the citizens of Belchertown and the general public with timely and accurate information.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Forgue, Chairman
Deborah Sammataro, Vice Chairman
Samuel Joyal, Clerk

CABLE CHANNELS 5, 62, & 63

Channel 5, Public Access Television in Belchertown, continues to grow as evidenced by the title to this Annual Report. In the fall of 2001, Channel 5 became Channel 5 (Government Access), Channel 62 (Public Access), and Channel 63 (Educational Access). This gives Belchertown the complete public TV service available to a community. Channel 62 is currently repeating the programming on Channel 5. It will be necessary to purchase some additional equipment in order to let Channel 62 operate as an independent cable channel. It is our intention to purchase this equipment when the annual allocation from Charter Communication is received this coming May.

Channel 63 has been designated the education public access channel. The Belchertown School Department will oversee, program, and maintain it. Mr. Pazasis, Superintendent of Schools, has started work on two initial programs for Channel 63. One will be a monthly in depth report on the activities of the Belchertown School System. The second will be a bi-monthly update on the School System. Look for them to start airing in January 2002.

Channel 5 has grown in several other ways. We have new volunteers to the Station who have made it possible for us to make new programs available to our viewing public.

Last year, the managers of Channel 5 invested in three more professional TV cameras, camera tripods, microphones, and play back VCR's used for our tape-delayed broadcasting. TV equipment is expensive and our yearly budget is not overly large. Each year we will continue to prudently upgrade our equipment. It is our stated goal to move toward an all digital station in the near future. All equipment purchases are being made with that in mind.

Channel 5 has grown into its new location at the Freedom Center. Last year we were given four rooms at Nursery II (re-named the Freedom Center by our Board of Selectmen). Dan Fitzpatrick spent months moving our equipment from the basement of Lawrence Memorial Hall to our new home. We now have a small TV studio, an equipment storage room, a Control Room, and an office. Dan built all the infrastructure, re-wired all the equipment, built the News Room Studio, and generally took an abandoned wing of Nursery II and turned it into our beautiful new home. All programs not shown live, now originate at our Freedom Center home.

Regular programming on Channel 5 currently consists of the following programs: Board of Selectmen meetings, Conservation Commission meetings, Planning Board meetings, School Committee meetings, EDIC meetings, Housing Authority meetings, Council on Aging meetings, Recreation Commission meetings, yearly Finance Committee Budget Meetings, Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meetings, The Belchertown Fair, St. Francis Weekly Masses, and Dwight Chapel Weekly Services. In addition Channel 5 schedules: ...About Belchertown, Town Talk, Memories of Belchertown, special programs such as EMT Emergency Training Exercises and the current "Where in Belchertown is Dan Fitzpatrick" contest, BlueRibbonCooks, Concerts on the Commons, BHS Graduation Ceremony, Step-up Ceremony at CHCS, BHS Band Concerts, CHCS Band Concerts, and Hope United Methodist Church Christmas Concert.

Channel 5 Sports Division tapes or shows live: BHS Football, BHS Wrestling, BHS Hockey, BHS Boys JV and Varsity Basketball, BHS Girls JV and Varsity Basketball.

Channel 5 consists of 20 volunteers that give of their time to bring all these community events to your home. Without their dedication, knowledge, and community spirit there would not be a Channel 5. The managers of Channel 5 want to publicly thank them for all their hard work.

Last year Dan Fitzpatrick stepped down as the General Manager of Channel 5. He did not stop volunteering and still continues to be the guiding light, the can do guy, the man with the ideas and the driving force that keeps us all going. Channel 5 literally is as good as it is, is as important a community asset as it is, as well run as it is because of all that Dan has done to nurture this organization. Thank you Dan for those five years.

Finally, this report would not be complete without thanking Charter Communication. They have been a great partner. All of our requests for service, system upgrades, and stupid technical questions have all been courteously, expeditiously, and professionally handled. Kim Drew, Technical Manager; and Bill Morales, Field Technician have been with us every step of the way.

To quote Dan Fitzpatrick from last years' report: "We have come a long way...and have our sights set high for the future. Thank you Belchertown."

Respectfully submitted,
Lew Louraine, Appointed Manager

Dan Fitzpatrick and Peg Louraine
Co-Managers

CIVIL DEFENSE

As the Civil Defense Director, I would like to update the citizens of Belchertown on this important function of local town government.

The purpose of Civil Defense or Emergency Coordination is a support group interacting with town departments to assist in emergency planning and preparedness'. These are primarily staff, not "command" functions, where the Coordinators serve under joint action arrangements with other Town Officials.

We have conducted an annual review of the emergency contingency plans, which focused on natural and technological hazards. In the future these plans will grow as the threat of terrorism has become unavoidable and far too common. The affects of September 11, 2001 will be embedded in citizen's minds for a long time to come.

The members of the Civil Defense Committee are made up of a diverse group of people. Their expertise in emergency response covers an extremely wide range, everything from natural disasters through technological incidents involving hazardous materials.

Additional updating of American Red Cross "Shelter" training will need to be ongoing for the upcoming year. Interested citizens who would like to assist when an emergency shelter is opened for the community can contact the Director at 323-7571.

The Civil Defense Committee members are committed to actively move ahead. With the help of the Board of Selectmen and citizens, we can and will prepare Belchertown to meet the next century.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward F. Bock, Director
Civil Defense

CLAPP MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Clapp Memorial Library (CML) is located at 19 South Main Street. Our regular hours of operation include Monday from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 6 :00 p.m.; and on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please call the Library at 323-0417 for summer hours beginning July 1st and running through Labor Day.

Clapp Memorial Library Patron Registration: Library cards are available to all Belchertown residents. Juvenile patrons (through grade 12) must have their parent or guardian sign their registration and sign a Parental Permission for Juvenile Access to the Information Technologies Network (Internet) and a Parental Permission For Juvenile Access to the Materials of the Clapp Memorial Library.

Fees: All public library services are FREE. Patrons are asked to cover the costs inherent in some library activities (i.e. producing copies, computer printouts, etc.).

I. CLAPP MEMORIAL LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT

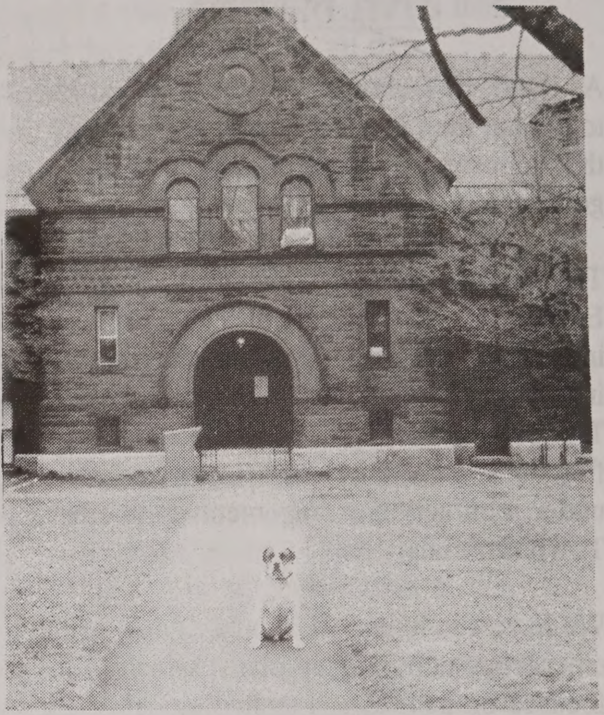
The Clapp Memorial Library is a popular and dynamic community resource that strives to satisfy the need for high quality, comprehensive public library services in areas that are among the most important to the Belchertown community.

The Clapp Memorial Library will provide materials and offer services that promote the development of individual learning strengths in our youngest patrons and prepare their parents and teachers to nourish and sustain this development.

The Clapp Memorial Library will provide an ample collection of topical materials together with a range of reference services selected and designed to meet the general information needs of our patrons.

The Clapp Memorial Library will offer a variety of current, popular materials together with corresponding services specifically selected and designed to satisfy the need for relaxation, recreation and reflection among our patrons.

To satisfy these patron needs, the Clapp Memorial Library offers a wide range of resources in a variety of formats, and provides a number of public library services. These resources and services are selected and delivered by a cordial, competent staff that fully supports the fundamental mission of the Clapp Memorial Library--to completely satisfy your public library needs in a manner that might entice you to visit your Library more often.



This is Jack, the Library Dog.

II. FY01 FUNDING

A. Our FY01 basic municipal appropriation came to $245,973. This figure represents an 11.9% increase above the FY00 appropriation ($216,718). The total FY01 figure represents approximately .95% of the entire municipal budget (1.1% FY00). The FY00 state average was 1.4%. [1]The FY2000 Group D median per capita library expenditure equaled $26.98. In Belchertown (pop. 12,193) the per capita library expenditure equaled but $20.17, or 75% of the State median.

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[1] Massachusetts Public Library Data: 2000 Summary Tables and Graphs. (MBLC: Boston) p.15.

B. FY01 ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INCOME:

1. FY01 State Aid Award Total	$ 17,708.00
2. Friends	1,978.00
3. Trustees	5,708.00
4. Eastern Comm. Partnership Grant	1,514.00
FY01 TOTAL	$ 26,908.00

C. TOTAL FY01 FUNDS AVAILABLE TO LIBRARY:

1. FY01 Municipal Appropriation	$245, 973.00
2. Total FY01 Additional Sources of Income	26,908.00
FY01 GRAND TOTAL	$272,881.00

III. FY01 CIRCULATION TOTALS: 130,064

A. During FY01 our Circulation grew by 3.1%.

FY01 circulation total:	130,064
Circulation per capita FY01:	Belchertown 10.7
Circulation per capita FY01:	Group Avg. unavailable
FY00 circulation total:	126,039
Circulation per capita FY00:	Belchertown 10.7
Circulation per capita FY00:	Group Avg. 8.9

B. Direct Circulation to Patrons

	ADULT/YA	CHILDREN	TOTAL
Books, etc. (printed materials)	33,252	41,445	74,697
Periodicals	3,515	601	4,116
Audiocassettes	7,961	356	8,317
Video cassettes/discs	20,210	20,584	40,794
CD ROMs	251	1,549	1,800
Miscellaneous Combined Total			340

C. Interlibrary Loans FROM other libraries	3,413
Interlibrary Loans TO other libraries	1,980

D. Nonresident Circulation Transactions	9,138

E. Registered Patrons -- as of 6/30/01 active patrons numbered 8,114 (4.6% increase over FY00 – 7,741).

F. Patron Visits -- In FY01 an average of 1,375 patrons visited the library each week for an estimated annual total of 71,500 (2.8% growth for FY00--69,472) individual visits to the Clapp Memorial Library.

G. Program Attendance:

1. CHILDREN'S PROGRAM ATTENDANCE FY01

Number of Programs:	403
Attendance:	12,377
Hours of Programming:	500.5

2. GENERAL PROGRAM ATTENDANCE FY01

Numbers of Programs:	38
Attendance:	365
Hours of Programming:	65

IV. FY01 HOLDINGS INFORMATION (as of June 30, 2001):

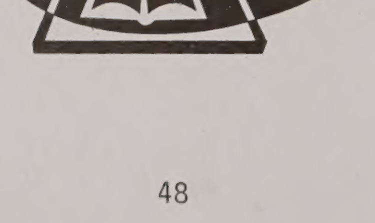
A. TOTAL COLLECTION: 22,673--11.7% FY01 reduction.

B. COLLECTION MATERIALS CATERGORIES:

	ADULT/YA	CHILDREN	TOTAL
Print Materials			
Volumes of books	10,178	8,215	18,393
Non-Print Materials			
Audio, Compact Discs, etc.	1,183	71	1,254
Video cassettes/discs	1,650	1,131	2,781
CD ROMS	26	140	166
Miscellaneous combined total:			79
TOTAL:			4,250

	Clapp Mem. Lib.	2Group D Avg.
FY01 TOTAL COLLECTION	22,673	58,822
HOLDINGS PER-CAPITA	1.88	4.76

CML Collection is 61% smaller than the average Group D Library Collection



V. HIGHLIGHTS FY01

1. AUTOMATED SERVICES:

Our membership in the C/W MARS Library Network continues to pay handsome dividends for our patrons. Patrons want information now. In FY01 improved Inter-Library Loan (ILL) Services, in conjunction with the recently incorporated System-Wide Holds program, C/W MARS has greatly accelerated delivery of materials to patrons. Requests for items unavailable locally are now placed electronically directly through the Network. CML now receives daily deliveries of materials for other libraries. In FY2000 we received 1,896 interlibrary loans and network transfers from other libraries. That number grew to 3,413 in FY01-- an increase of 183%. Similarly, the number of items that we sent to other libraries through ILL was too small to tally in years past; in FY01 that number reached 1,980. Today these numbers continue to grow, as does our patron satisfaction.

Three new computers with updated software were purchased in July 2000. A pair of these new machines went to Circulation Services, the heart of CML patron service, and the third went to the Library Director's Office. A budget request for replacement hardware and software is made each year. We have 13 computer workstations--a request to replace the 3 oldest, most obsolete is made each year. Through such an approach we continue to provide high quality patron service while minimizing the financial impact on Town resources.

2. CHILDREN'S SERVICES:

Under the stewardship of Jennifer Whitehead, Head of Children's Services, and Assistant Children's Librarian Mary Senecal, FY01 was another outstanding year for Library Services to Children in Belchertown. Please see Programming Statistics.

3. BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

It is no secret that the CML is far too small to meet all of the Library needs of this community. Space is at a premium, and the most efficient use of that which is available involved the relocation of staff office space. To that end the office of the Library Director was moved from the Main Floor to the Trustees Room. The Assistant Children's Librarian/Cataloging Technician moved into that main floor office. This move provided more workspace for the Children's Librarian and Technical Services in a 20' x 9' area that previously housed three staff members.

This reorganization necessitated the purchase and installation of updated telephone system. A central routing telephone was installed at the Circulation Desk. The system provided voice mail and the ability to greet patron calls with pre-recorded messages. These features increased our ability to serve patrons and use our time more efficiently.

This project is but the latest in a long list of maintenance and improvement projects completed by the Library and the Town. Among the most significant of these projects are: the installation of our first automated circulation system (1989), the renovation of the Library stage into the

Children's Library (1990), the remodeling of the basement into the Children's Activities Area (1991), major landscaping changes (1993), the construction of a new Circulation Desk and the first expansion of the south stacks (1995), stained glass window repair (1996), roof replacement (1997), the Library interior was repainted (1998), and the Access Project (1999-2000). This is an impressive record of care and concern for a treasured, beloved Belchertown landmark. Both the Library Board of Trustees and our municipal leaders can take pride in their shared concern and consequent accomplishments with regard to preserving this invaluable landmark and improving the coveted public services that the CML has provided for our community since 1887.

4. BUDGET, GRANTS AND GIFTS:

In FY2000 the Town of Belchertown hired a consultant to complete a Classification Study for all municipal employees. One of the recommendations of that study was to increase the compensation for CML employees up to levels equal to those of their colleagues in surrounding municipalities. This is an increase well earned--a MBLC statewide comparison of staff output measures clearly shows that CML staff is far more efficient than our colleagues in other Group D libraries. Belchertown is getting a bargain. Even more important here is the predominant patron opinion regarding the competent, courteous and friendly attitude of the entire CML staff.

A 3% cut from the FY2000 municipal support yet again left the Library unable to completely satisfy its operational needs in FY2002. By maintaining our high standards of public library service we remained eligible for State Aid to Public Libraries amounting to $17,708.00 in FY01. Additional funding included Friends of the Library--$1,978.00, Trustees--$5,708.00, Eastern Comm. Partnership Grant--$1,514.00 for an FY2001 total of $26,908.00. These additional funds were needed to bridge the gap left by inadequate FY2001 Municipal Support.

5. LONG-RANGE PLANNING:

Be0lchertown has been transformed from a sparsely populated, rural township, into one of the fastest growing communities in the Commonwealth. If the Clapp Memorial Library hopes to maintain its tradition of providing public library services of the highest quality a Long Range Public Library Service Plan had to be developed. In September 1999 a committee was appointed to study Belchertown, and recommend a Long Range Public Library Service Plan spanning the years from FY2001 through FY2005.

Committee members were asked to picture the ideal future Belchertown. Knowing where Belchertown wanted to go, the Committee was able to focus upon what the community needed to get there. Following a scan of the Clapp Memorial Library, these community needs were compared to the strengths and weaknesses of the Library, and the Committee was able to determine which community needs the Library could most productively influence. A Library Mission Statement was subsequently drafted. This document concisely indicates what the Library intends to do in its efforts to satisfy some of Belchertown's most pressing community needs. A detailed Service Response Plan was developed indicating how the Library would address those particular community needs. The Plan closes with a Library Vision Statement painting a picture of an ideal new library facility that will be capable of continuing the long and rich public service tradition of the Clapp Memorial Library well into a second century. The Plan was approved by the Library Board of Trustees and submitted to the Massachusetts of Library Commissioners in December 2000.

6. STAFF DEVELOPMENT:

Continuing Education remains a priority among all members of the staff of the Clapp Memorial Library. During FY2001 Library staff members attended 38 programs amassing 160 continuing education hours. Funding for Continuing Education through accredited institutions has been provided by the Town, by the Trustees and from the Library's daily receipts. The great majority of continuing education opportunities comes from WMRLS and C/W MARS.

VI. GOALS FOR THE NEAR FUTURE--FY2002

The Clapp Memorial Library has proven itself to be a very popular and valuable community resource. As Belchertown is among the fastest growing communities in the Commonwealth it is likely to become even more popular and more valuable in the coming years. Without a larger facility, and substantially greater municipal support, however, the Clapp Memorial Library will quite simply be unable to meet this increased demand for public library services. Consequently, The Library's goals for FY2002 are to maintain its current level of high quality patron services, and to prepare for a future where that level of quality parallels the growing level of demand.

1. PATRON SERVICES/ TECHNOLOGY:

The Library will develop and administer its own WEB Page in FY2002. As the Library moves more and more into a direct patron service role, this WEB Page will offer a growing list of online library services made available to our patrons. This will be an evolving service.

2. PERSONNEL ISSUES:

The return of Nancy McConnell after so long an absence is welcome indeed. As Nancy's rehabilitation continues and her condition improves she can begin once again to assume her full departmental responsibilities. Due to the serious nature of Nancy's injuries, however, this transition will not happen as quickly as we would all hope. Patron services cannot be allowed to falter during that transition. Consequently, the need for the part-time hours that we have had since Nancy's accident must be maintained. Today, even with the 10 hours that Nancy now works, the Library's additional part-time hours do not equal the 40 hours that we lost with Nancy's full-time absence.

Continue to promote staff development and expect staff to take advantage of continuing education and staff development opportunities. While the Library will do all in its power to assist motivated staff to pursue continued education, the responsibility to remain professionally competent is a personal responsibility.

Such motivation should be generously rewarded.

3. BUILDING & GROUNDS:

The Clapp Memorial Library has proven itself to be a very popular and valuable community resource. So popular, in fact, that the Clapp Memorial Library building itself is no longer capable of meeting the public library needs of a community as dynamic as today's Belchertown. A new facility is sorely needed. The Library is the recipient of a $20,000 Planning and Design Grant sponsored by the MBLC. The Town of Belchertown has contributed an additional $36,000 to a project that will give the Library a building program, architectural plans and designs and a scale model of a new facility by the close of FY2002. This is the first concrete step in the building of a state-of-the-art public library for Belchertown that is capable of meeting the recreational, informational, cultural and educational needs of our growing community.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE GOALS:

Continue to implement the programs and services included in the Planning For Results: The CML Long Range Plan 2001-2005.

Each of these programs and services grow out of the: CML Mission Statement:

The Clapp Memorial Library is a popular and dynamic community resource that strives to satisfy the need for high quality, comprehensive public library services in areas that are among the most important to the Belchertown community.

The Clapp Memorial Library will provide materials and offer services that promote the development of individual learning strengths in our youngest patrons and prepare their parents and teachers to nourish and sustain this development.

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The Clapp Memorial Library will offer a variety of current, popular materials together with corresponding services specifically selected and designed to satisfy the need for relaxation, recreation and reflection among our patrons.

VII. THE PEOPLE

It has only been through the extraordinary efforts of those listed below that the Clapp Memorial Library has been so successful in meeting the public library needs of our Belchertown community.

Volunteers: Mauri Korhunen, Debra Geoffrey, and the entire Friends of the Library group.

Trustees: Jane Crutchfield, Ted Fuller, Stephen Lanphear, Joanne Newman, Mary Beth Phair and Wendy Story.

Trustees Emeritus: Virginia Hislop, George Bach, Joanne Bach, Thomas Fuller, and Patricia Fuller

Staff:

- Ann Biron, Head of Reference/Circulation Services
- Jennifer Whitehead, Head of Children's Services
- Nancy McConnell, Head of Automated Services/Inter-Library Loan Services
- Mary Senecal, Asst. to the Children's Librarian
- Tasha Majerowski, Circulation Services Assistant
- Midge Leighton, Circulation Services Assistant
- Melissa Bodzinski, Library Page
- Chris Biron, Library Page
- Jacques Benoint, Library Maintenance and Custodial Care
- Owen Maloney, Director

Respectfully submitted,

Owen Maloney,
Library Director

COMPUTING DEPARTMENT

Over the past year our efforts have been focused primarily on the inclusion of remote departments in the town-wide fiber optic network. The Municipal Area Network, or MAN, now includes the Police and Fire Stations, Emergency Medical Services, Public Works, Recreation, the Teen Center, the Senior Center, Channel 5 and the School Department Central Office. Connecting the School Central Office was the first step toward taking over support of the schools' information systems.

Construction of a new, technologically advanced high school is well under way, and will present our department with many new challenges. Systems, Software, Support Inc., a technology-consulting firm from Northfield, MA, has been contracted to implement the computer network, which will consist of over 400 workstations and multiple servers running Microsoft Windows 2000. We are in the process of negotiating a new contract with Charter Communications to provide enough bandwidth to the Internet to accommodate this vast expansion of our network. Each school department workstation will have a fast Internet connection, comparable to home cable modems, just as the municipal workstations have had for at least the past few months.

Late last summer our backup/recovery plan was put to the test. Due to hardware failure our primary server went down and had to be brought back up from scratch. All critical data was recovered from tape backup and the server was fully operational within 24 hours of Dell resolving the hardware issues.

There have been some staff changes in our department again this year. In September Steve Malandrinos was appointed as the new Director, and in early October Kevin Hannon was hired as the new Assistant Director. Despite staff changes the goal of our department remains the same: To increase productivity through the managed use of technology. We will continue to set an example for surrounding towns of the benefits that continued investment in information technology can bring.

As with every other department in town and government organizations across the country we are facing financial challenges due to recent events. Despite budget cuts and limited funds we have maintained growth and improvement in our systems, and will continue to do so in the coming months and years. It is our belief that our efforts and investments have helped to improve and will continue to advance our organization toward a more efficient and effective service to the residents and businesses of Belchertown.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Malandrinos
Director of Computing

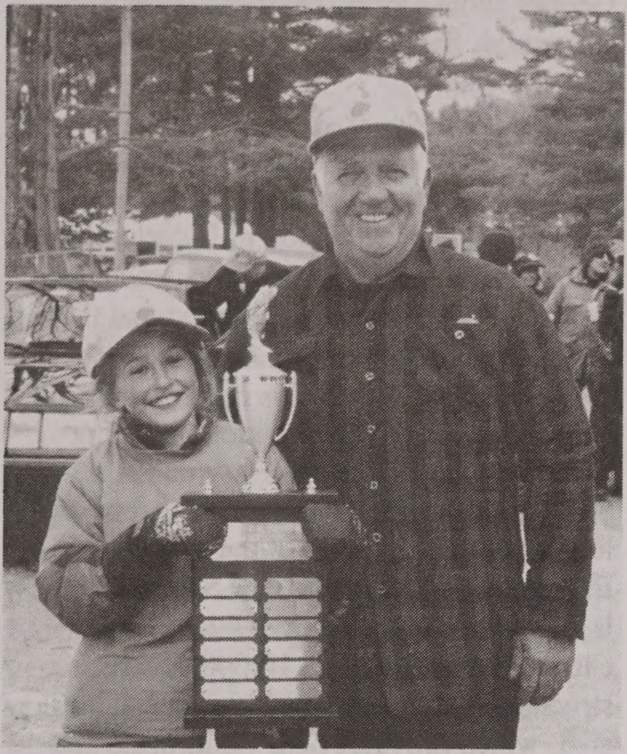
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Belchertown Conservation Commission held 72 hearings under the Wetlands Protection Act; 31 of these were Requests for Determination and 37 were Notices of Intent, 2 were for permit extensions, 1 to Amend an Order of Conditions and 1 was an Administrative Hearing to deal with an outstanding enforcement issue. The Commission issued 2 Emergency Certificates for the protection of public health and safety. The Commission also reviewed all septic system installation permits, forest cutting plans, site plan review permits, subdivision applications, and Chapter 61, 61A and 61B withdrawal requests. In addition, the Commission also reviewed the applications for all proposed wireless communication towers and ANR plans, and submitted comments to the Planning Board.

The Commission has conducted numerous site visits to monitor ongoing projects throughout the year. The Cold Spring Golf Course is currently under construction and extensive site visits have occurred to monitor this project and also the ongoing Belchertown High School project. The Commission has dealt with numerous enforcement issues and has issued 7 Enforcement Orders. Some enforcement matters have been outstanding for sometime and the Commission has been concentrating its efforts to bring these projects back into compliance.

Existing trail adjacent to Knights Pond

The Commission is currently monitoring the proposed Type 1 Compost Storage Facility located on Stebbins Street. A Notice of Intent had been filed for work on the work on this property and the Commission had received an outpouring of comments from residents. Over 150 Town residents have attended both of our November meetings to state their concerns or questions regarding this project. The Commission has conducted many site visits regarding this project, including a site visit to the applicant's Holyoke Compost Processing Plant and their Ludlow Compost Storage Facility. Due to the numerous complex issues involved with this project, the Commission has been concentrating a large majority of its resources to this project and has hired an outside consultant to assist with monitoring the compliance with the outstanding Enforcement Order. This project is presently on hold until restoration efforts have been completed.



Fran Bodzinski, Tri-Lakes Association, presents Trophy at Fishing Derby – February 2001

The year 2001 has been a very busy and productive year for both the Town and the Conservation Commission. The Commission has worked very closely with Town officials on numerous and extensive projects. The Commission is currently working with the Planning Board in updating the Community Plan. The Commission is also working on our current Wetland Regulations, their review and update in the future. The Conservation Commission has taken advantage of numerous grant opportunities this past year. The Commission has been notified by the EOEA that the Town has been approved $207,400 from the Self-help Grant program for the purchase of the Reed property, located on Gold Street. The Commission is currently working on a fundraising program to raise the additional $12,000 needed to purchase this property. Land trusts and private donations are actively being pursued by the Commission to offset this deficit.

The Commission also received a grant for $10,000 from the Lake and Ponds Grant program to apply an herbicide treatment to Lake Metacomet for the control of non-native, invasive aquatic vegetation. The Commission is actively working with the Tri-Lakes Association in acquiring all the necessary permits from the State for implementing this herbicide treatment, scheduled for June 2002.

In the area of conservation land management and open space planning, the Conservation Commission has been working with the Open Space Subcommittee in updating our Open Space Plan. The Open Space Plan will be completed by March 1, 2002. The Commission sponsored a Land Protection Seminar on April 25, 2001 and speakers included Richard Hubbard from the APR program, Jennifer Soper from EOEA, and Peter Westover from the Valley Land Fund. The seminar was well attended by town residents and 5 APR applications were distributed to local farmers. The Commission is also actively involved in the development of the Geographic Information System to assist the Town with prioritizing, identifying and mapping open space areas for resource area planning. Belchertown's Open Space and Recreation Map has also been updated and the new 2001 maps are available for purchase at the Town Hall and recreation outlets in and around Town.

The Commission would like to thank the Town's people, the Selectmen, and all collaborating boards and land trusts, in helping us successfully protect another valuable resource area within the community, the Reed Property. The acquisition of the Reed property is in accord with the Town's commitment to protect the quality of our drinking water supplies and maintaining the rural character of our community. Collaborative efforts by non-profit land trusts, state agencies and private landowners will significantly strengthen the chances for successful open space protection within the community.

In March of this year, the Commission regretfully accepted the resignation of Conservation Commission Clerk, Robert Stover, after providing over 9 years of service to the Town. Alfred Gallant was appointed to fill the vacant Commissioner position. The Commission is anxious to begin new projects for the year 2002 and feels confident that the environment is favorable, within the local community, to protect even more valuable resource areas and open space within the Town.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Rizzo, Chairman
David Haines, Vice Chairman
Joseph Babineau, Commissioner
Paul Eurkus, Commissioner
Edward Knight, Commissioner
Thomas Keefe, Commissioner
Alan Gallant, Commissioner
LeeAnne Connolly, Administrator

COUNCIL ON AGING

Founded in 1973, the Belchertown Council on Aging provides a range of social, health, nutritional, transportation and advocacy services to the senior population in the greater Belchertown Area.

The Council on Aging is a Town Appointed Board. Current members include: Marian Panto, Chair, Joan Poole, Vice Chair, Dr. James Collard, Secretary, Jeannette Crowther, Ethel Casey, William Kimball, George Dion, Doris Dickinson, Josephine Fitzgerald, Sally Dodge and Mildred Christensen.

The Council on Aging holds membership in the National Council on Aging, Massachusetts Association of Elderly Nutrition Providers, Western Massachusetts Association of Councils on Aging and the Massachusetts Council on Aging.

On May 20, 2001, the Council on Aging celebrated the first anniversary of our new Senior Center. Previously, the Center was located in the basement of the Tadgell Elementary School. The new Senior Center is a state of the art facility which encompasses within it's 10,000 square feet structure, a fully equipped kitchen/dining area, which provides both Congregate and Meals on Wheels meals to seniors in the community, a Social Day Care Program, and several spacious areas for activities.

An array of recreational, health and educational programs are available to seniors ages 55 and older. With more than 20 classes, clubs, and activities occurring each week, an average of over 225 seniors participate in some way each day. The Council on Aging is a busy and vital organization providing services to seniors and families in the Town. The Senior Center Building, which is equipped with a generator, also serves as a backup shelter for use in the event of a community emergency.

Our Title IIIC Nutrition Program provides on site congregate lunches, as well as home delivered meals to seniors unable to leave their homes. Congregate meals are served in our dining room Monday through Friday and are often accompanied by music or a speaker. During the FY01 period, seniors enjoyed in excess of 10,000 meals in the good company of others. Our Home Delivered Meal Program served 40,846 home delivered meals this past year. Meals are delivered 363 days a year. The Nutrition Program is supported through a combination of town funds, grant money, participant donations, private fundraising, state home care reimbursements, and USDA cash and commodities.

The Council on Aging also provides home maintenance services to eligible seniors in the Town. The program is partially funded by a grant provided through WestMass ElderCare. The program is in its third year of operation and has served many seniors in need of basic home maintenance services.

During FY01, the Senior Surrey has transported over 200 different seniors on over 5000 individual trips. Seniors have enjoyed a variety of activities including shopping, social, recreational activities and much more. Rides are still offered for general shopping and doctor appointments as scheduling allows. Seniors who participate in the Social Day Care Program at the Center receive transportation through the Council on Aging. Transportation is also provided for seniors who attend other senior day care programs. This transportation program is funded through a town appropriation, state home care contract and private payments. The transportation provided under this program is vital to the continued physical and emotional well-being of our participants in helping to reduce isolation, and to insure medical care. The once "new" van now has over 115,000 miles on it. We have begun the process of seeking a replacement through the state's "Mobility Assistance Program. The process of obtaining a new van through this department takes a minimum of 18 months with 80% state funding. We have already begun fundraising efforts for the other 20%.

The Council on Aging expanded its Social Day Program this past year. We now have 10 clients, 8 of whom are Belchertown residents. The program is intended to provide a supervised, organized, and supportive setting to elders in need of a structured environment and serves a critically important service to the community. The new Senior Center site affords the program more space allowing for up to 15 participants a day. The Social Day Care is a therapeutic social program for the participants as well as welcomed respite for the participant's family/caretaker. The Social Day Program is open Monday through Friday, and features an array of interactive activities, guided exercise, recreation, snacks, lunch, and much more. One of its goals is to help support caregivers and other concerned family members whose loved ones are recovering from illness, injury, or who cannot or do not want to remain at home during the day. The program is funded in part through a Formula Grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, state home care reimbursements, program fees and town contributions.

Outreach and education to elders remains an important facet of the Social Services position here at the Council on Aging. Our Outreach/Social Services Coordinator makes home visits to assess/evaluate our elderly residents needs in areas such as health and safety, nutrition, socialization and concerns of day-to-day living that result in unmet needs. Home visits, office visits and phone conversations result in follow-up and often referrals to area agencies, medical and legal professionals, town & state agencies, hospitals, social and assistance programs, churches, service provides, and other organizations too numerous to mention. Advocacy for elderly residents most in need is an integral part of the Social Service function. Our Social Service Coordinator works in conjunction with police, fire, church leaders, town officials and medical staff to identify elderly in need of assistance.

Health promotion activities remains of vital interest to the community. Health clinics such as blood sugar and blood pressure screenings and foot care are well attended each month. Educational forums on benefit information, medication management, local resources, and a range of other topics are arranged and presented on a regular basis. Our annual flu shot clinic serves over 200 seniors each year.

The SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) Council & TRIAD continues in its fifth year addressing issues of health and safety in the community. The Belchertown SALT Council is one of many in Hampshire County supporting this project.

Spirited efforts to encourage the growth in senior activities both in and outside of the center are ongoing. Since the end of 1999, the Strategic Planning Process, spearheaded by the Council on Aging Board, has worked zealously through the four committees it is comprised of to provide quality programs and activities. Much more work needs to be done and volunteers for the committees are always welcomed. The four committees are Activities, Budget, Public Relations and Policy. We wish to thank all the staff, board members and volunteers who have worked so hard on these committees.

Bill Korzenowski, Senior Center Director, mingles during Halloween Luncheon

Some activities currently going on at the Senior Center are exercise, Tai Chi, bridge, painting, drawing, and quilting. We also have walking clubs, bingo, Bolivia and cribbage, Widow & Widowers, Stroke & Social Support Groups. We also have two different bands practicing and playing at the Center. Many of these activities in and outside of the Senior Center would not be possible without the outstanding efforts of our volunteers. Each program benefits from the warm and generous contributions of many individuals of all ages. This past year the Council on Aging was gifted with more than 9,240 hours of service from 122 volunteers saving the town over $80,234.00.

The Belchertown Council on Aging and the services that the organization provides would not be successful without the support of the local town citizens, volunteers, grants, state and local town government. For all this support, a most generous thank you is to be given. Please come and visit your new Senior Center. We promise you will not be disappointed.

Council on Aging Operating Budget
FY 2001

Town Appropriation	**$290,687.00**

Title IIIC Nutrition Program

Title IIIC Grant	$49,585.00
State Home Care	$39,671.00
Participant Donations	$46,061.00
USDA Cash	$16,673.20
USDA Commodities	$16,919.78
Town Funds (Includes staff salaries, driver mileage & stipends, In-Kind)	($116,000.00)

Transportation Program

State Home Care	$1,695.00
Holyoke Geriatric	$1,943.00
Passenger Fees	$2,100.00
Town Funds (Includes drivers, gasoline, maintenance)	($31,671.00)

Service Incentive Grant

$2,520.00 Exercise Programs

Social Day Program

Formula Grant	$7,005.00
State Home Care	$3,975.00
Private Payment	$9,688.00
Town Funds	($10,700.00)

Home Maintenance

Program Grant	$2,500.00
Program Income	$3,521.00
Donations	$8,278.00

Total Operating Funds	$499,300.98

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Did you know that Belchertown has Cultural Council? It's true! Belchertown, like every other town and city in the Commonwealth is part of a unique "web" of cultural support parented by the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC). The "web" is an organized system of funding provided through the MCC (since 1990), which was born from the merger of two previously separate agencies, the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities and the Massachusetts Arts Lottery Council. Governed by a board of 19 private citizens appointed by the governor for staggered three-year terms, the MCC is funded by appropriations from State Legislature and from the National Endowment for the Arts. The mission of the MCC and its local cultural council partners is "to promote excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities." Local Cultural Councils, like Belchertown's, are comprised of volunteers appointed by the community's chief elected officials. In Belchertown, the Board of Selectmen appoints the Council's members and each member serves for a term of three years. The Commonwealth's network of local agencies distributing cultural funds is the only one of its kind in the United States.

During 2001 much change happened for the Belchertown Cultural Council (BCC). Amidst term endings and resignations, a core of volunteers maintained the work of the Council. The Co-Chairs, Gretchen Holesovsky and Judy McQuillen, both moved on to other projects. Gretchen had served for six years and is currently working on her painting, which was recently shown at the Community Music School of Springfield. She also teaches in town. This past year also saw the resignation of independent artist Sheryl

Jackson. Sheryl has moved to Brimfield and remains involved with the arts wherever she goes. Dianne Magee also resigned. Treasurer Dennis Miller, arts organizer extraordinaire, is still on board and keeping the budget on track. Member Mary Ellen Miller, musician and teacher, remains on the Council, providing not only her BCC experience, but also her energy and fresh ideas for the upcoming Arts Festival. And 2001 welcomed several new members to the Council. Lara Lynn Lane, writer and artist, signed on in July and was inundated with the charge of being Chair. Her personal mission of "keeping the arts alive and amongst the people" ties in very well with the BCC's core purpose. Katie Fitzgerald, new resident and now the Secretary of the BCC, also joined this year. Katie brings an exceptional organizational talent and a voice of community-involvement-experience to the Council. Late in the year the Selectmen also appointed new members Ljuba Marsh, a long-time Belchertown resident and arts torch bearer, and Sharon Cady-Harrison, a violin, viola, and viola da gamba player, to the Council.

The 2001 grants cycle proved to be an interesting line-up of entertainment and education. From a teen writing clinic to storytelling and musical engagements, class trips to historical explorations, the Council was able to fund about 14 cultural endeavors.

The end of 2001 found the Council waiting on the State budget like everyone else. We were overjoyed to discover that in fact our budget still exists and that the funding for the 2002 grants cycle is just about the same as it was last year. The FY02 allocation is $7,230 and after receiving about 30 applications in the fall the Council has approved 15 new projects. This year promises to be "culturally hip" in Belchertown. And we hope that every citizen will have the chance to participate in some of the Cultural Council happenings around town.

Respectfully submitted,
Lara Lynn Lane, Chairman

Work at the Stop & Shop location has started.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION

In the calendar year 2001, the Belchertown Economic Development and Industrial Corporation (BEDIC) experienced a very active year. The Town's Master Plan for the development of the Belchertown State School, which closed in 1992, was first approved by Town Meeting in 1993, and was again updated by Town Meeting in Nov. 2001, as required by Massachusetts General Law.

After many years of pressuring the Commonwealth to clean up the former campus, located on Parcel B, only to see continued and increased deterioration of the existing buildings, the BEDIC reexamined its position in an effort to find a new and more effective approach. It became apparent that if Parcel B were to be cleaned up and restored, the BEDIC would be required, by legislative act, to pay full market price for the property. Main Campus Parcel B, when combined with open-space parcels D and E, would create a cost to the BEDIC estimated to be several million dollars, an amount which would far exceed the resources available to the Corporation. Failure to purchase, by law, would in turn open up sale of the property to private residential developers.

The Board of Directors, weighing the $550,000 appraisal on Parcels D & E, and an existing appraisal of negative $500,000 for Parcel B, realized that the combined price was affordable at one dollar. Knowing the presence of hazardous materials on Parcel B, the Directors examined all available state sponsored professional hazardous waste appraisals, along with one done by the BEDIC itself. In sum total, excluding the Power Plant area, all known wastes had been removed, with the exception of asbestos. During the late summer, the state, having completed extensive remediation at the Power Plant, received a letter from the Department of Environmental Protection certifying the Power Plant to be clean.

After considerable evaluation of the asbestos present, which if properly contained can be an asset, it was determined by the BEDIC Directors that this was not an insurmountable problem. In June a letter was sent to the Commissioner of DCAM, offering to buy Parcels B, D and E, a total of 280 acres, for the sum of one dollar. The Commissioner took the offer under advisement, authorized an updated appraisal of Parcel B, and upon receipt of the appraisal in December, accepted the BEDIC's offer. That offer had then to be approved by the Inspector General and Legislature. The BEDIC expects to take ownership in February.

The BEDIC had twice published Requests For Proposals for development of the State School property in late CY 2000, and received neither proposals nor letters of interest in developing the State School property. In July, a development company with a national reputation came forward with an offer to purchase Parcel E for the purpose of developing an office park and retail complex. Negotiations commenced, and a Buy/Sell agreement was hammered out for an agreed upon cash purchase price, installation of a town approved 2200 foot sewer system to Parcel D, along Routes 21 and 202, and a reconstructed intersection for Routes 202 and 21. The estimated value to the town and to the BEDIC of that Buy/Sell agreement was over $1 million for 43 unimproved acres. The BEDIC expects, upon receipt of title to the property from the State in February, to execute the Buy/Sell agreement at this same time.

The developer's proposal for developing Parcel E (bounded by Route 202 West and 21 south), has received conditional approval from the Belchertown Planning Board. The first phase of the development would add over $10 million to the town's tax base and some $200,000 in tax receipts to the strapped town budget. Additionally, some 150 jobs would be created along with the influx of many new or improved services for the town's residents.

Simultaneously, the Directors worked, during the Fall, with DCAM and our State Legislators, to further the town's efforts to locate a new Eastern Hampshire District Court facility in Belchertown, as legislated in laws passed in 1996. Along with other town officers, the Directors were sorely disappointed when an RFP for leasing a Temporary Court facility was received and Belchertown was precluded from submitting a proposal by language limiting acceptable proposals to the Town of Hadley only. Along with the Selectmen and others, we are determined to work even more diligently and effectively in coming months to insure that the existing legislation remains in tact and that the new Court House will be built on Parcel D within the foreseeable future. And, further, that this second parcel will be developed in a manner that will add more business real estate to our tax base, add additional local employment, and bring a respected service industry to our town.

Parcel D has also sparked an interest from the Pioneer Valley Transportation Authority. Belchertown is becoming a small hub in the passenger transportation field. PVTA has kindly offered to work with the BEDIC in developing an Intra Model Transportation Facility in conjunction with the new court facility. This project would bring an estimated $4 million in Federal and State funds for Master Planning and facilities development. Upon completion, transportation routes to Ware, Amherst, Holyoke (via Granby and S. Hadley) and express transit to downtown Springfield are envisioned, and a base for elderly and handicapped van service will develop. (Some might even envision rail service from this location!!)

In the fall of 2001, as our efforts became more well known via the public press, interest increased in Parcel B. There are sizable wetlands on the 180-acre main campus, which would be protected from development, but many of the buildings and much of the remaining open space is of interest to a diverse business community. By the end of the fall some five proposals had surfaced, which, upon development of a master plan, will be reviewed, and if appropriate, will be the base of future development for the former school facility. The Directors are extremely optimistic that, through these developments, non residential tax revenues will increase, important local employment will be create and new services will become available to the community.

In reviewing the year past, it has been a tumultuous period, arguing the pros and cons, strengths and weaknesses of every aspect of our decision-making. No decision came easily. The process might be equated to ascending a huge mountain of marbles, changing, slipping, evading our grasp, fraught with evasive progress, and yet with a goal of huge importance to the future of the town. But progress has been made, indeed more then in any year in the past 20 years, through the diligence and hard work of a team of Belchertown citizens determined to achieve the long anticipated dream of that Town Meeting in 1993, which approved the first Belchertown State School Reuse Master Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugenie Barry, Chairman
William Terry
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick
Lloyd Chadbourne
Peter Galuszka
Kirk Stephens
Jay Rossi (resigned 6/01)
Richard Steiner (appointed 9/01)
Paul Anziano, Associate Member
Mary Knight, Associate Member
David Roberts, Associate Member
David Marley, Associate Member
(appointed 9/01)

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

The Belchertown EMS Department provides 24-hour a day Advanced Life Support ambulance coverage in Belchertown with a staff of full-time, part-time and on-call volunteer Basic and Intermediate level Emergency Medical Technicians. Our office is located at 9 East Walnut Street (the former Police Station).

We provide services with 4 vehicles: our front line ambulance is a 2000 Ford E-450 manufactured by AEV, our back up ambulance is a 1996 E-350 manufactured by Marque, the third vehicle, a 1984 Chevy blazer is used to gain access into off road areas and during inclement weather as a response vehicle. The fourth vehicle, a 1996 Ford Crown Victoria is used as an administrative vehicle and a rapid response vehicle when additional assistance is needed during an emergency.

The EMS Department has seen tremendous growth over the past several years, with 1048 emergency responses this year; we have almost doubled our call volume in only five years.

With the increased call volume in the past several years our staffing levels have also increased. We would like to welcome EMT Intermediate Judi Searle as the 2nd shift ALS supervisor and Mark Brouillette as a part-time EMT basic. In September 2001 EMT Paramedic Eric Jenks resigned as the Departments ALS coordinator with plans of working as a paramedic in Florida. We wish Eric Jenks good luck with his future endeavors and would like to say thank you for making the transition to the Intermediate level smooth and successful. The Department would like to welcome EMT Intermediate William Fisher as the new ALS Coordinator; Mr. Fisher brings many years of Advanced Life Support experience with him and has become a valuable resource to this Department.

With the increase in our service to the ALS Intermediate level the EMS Department has focused on training, continuing education and recruitment of EMTs to achieve our goal of being licensed as a Paramedic Level ambulance service within the next 18 to 24 months. (The Paramedic level is the highest level of pre hospital care an ambulance service can provide to its patients)

The EMS Department has conducted/ sponsored a total of 486 hours of combined training for our EMTs during the past year. This years training consisted of:

- EMT basic refresher
- ALS Intermediate refresher
- Medication administration

- Epinephrine auto ejectors
- EMS state protocols (update)
- CPR for professional rescuer
- CPR Instructors course
- Cardiac defibrillation (AED)
- Driver training
- Blood borne pathogens

The EMS Department has sponsored 2 EMTs to the Blackstone Valley Paramedic Program with an anticipated graduation date in September 2002.

Belchertown EMS and Mary Lane Hospital conducted a Mock Mass Casualty training Incident (MCI). The drill had two objectives. First to test the resources of Belchertown EMS and the area ambulance services to respond to and coordinate treatment and transportation of multiple patients. Second to test Mary Lane Hospital's ability to react to multiple critical patients. Belchertown EMS, Belchertown Fire Department, Belchertown Police Department Amherst Ambulance, Granby Ambulance, Palmer Ambulance and Ludlow Ambulance along with UMASS Life Flight all participated in the drill. This training not only provided Mary Lane with their annual drill but also provided Belchertown EMS with the knowledge that if we ever needed to, we are able to treat and transport multiple critical patients when needed.

In July 2001 Belchertown EMS started to offer an ambulance subscription service. The program cost is $ 50.00 per year for a single member or $60.00 per year for a household. The subscription provides insurance for emergency basic and Advanced Life Support ambulance transportation by Belchertown EMS (this program does not cover outside ambulance services or procedures).

Belchertown EMS would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Belchertown Police and Fire Departments for their help on so many occasions throughout the year. I would also like to thank the residents of Belchertown who continue to express their willingness to help when needed.

Director of EMS
Steven A. Syriac

ALS Coordinator
Eric R. Jenks Resigned 9/2001
William Fisher Appointed 10/2001

Full Time Intermediate
Judi Searle, 2nd Shift Supervisor

Part-Time
John E. Hawley
Mark Brouillette

Appointed
David Conkey
Thomas Majerowski
James Taylor
Bruce Jenks
Sean Bracey
Jeffery Scott
Francis Lofland

- 600 calls in 1998
- 725 calls in 1999
- 875 calls in 2000
- 1048 calls in 2001

Respectfully Submitted

Steven A. Syriac, Director
Emergency Medical Services

BELCHERTOWN FAIR & PARADE COMMITTEE

The 144th Annual Belchertown Fair and Parade was a huge success. The amusement vendor estimated 35,000 people attended the fair. The Fair & Parade Committee welcomed one new member, Kevin LaCroix and is now comprised of nine individuals. As always, many volunteers stepped forward to support the Committee and donated generously of their time and resources.

This year, the Committee struggled with the loss of a State Agricultural Grant but managed to raise enough revenue to support the Fair's $32,000.00 operating budget. New events and attractions were added to the festivities including The Memory Tree, The Veggie Five Hundred Race and The Farmer for a Day Exhibit. Farmer for a Day provided fair goers with a hands-on opportunity to experience apple picking, milking a cow, gathering eggs, and harvesting potatoes.

There was minimal disruption to the fair when an untimely "Boil Water Order" went into effect. The committee was well supported by the Water District and Board of Health to ensure vendors and fair goers had access to potable water. Mr. Roger Harris was commended for responding promptly to our request for service and immediately donated a tanker truck of water. The waterless hand sanitizing stations we implemented this year were put to great use.

There were seventy-eight booths at the fair. Thirty-three were commercial non-profit vendors, twenty-seven were adult non-profit vendors, and eighteen were youth non-profit vendors. The Massachusetts Food and Agricultural Inspectors commended the educational displays in the Exhibit Hall and marveled at the transformation of the Old Town Hall to a successful Exhibit Hall rich with agricultural entries.

The parade was also a success with more entries than ever before including the addition of seven floats. The Committee entered the Liberty Float in memory of the events of September 11th and was grateful to members of the Congregational Church Choir for singing the Star Spangled Banner when the Liberty Float stopped at the judge's stand.

The Committee actively participated in The Western Massachusetts Fair Association convention by providing a workshop entitled "How Public Access Television Helps Your Fair". We also collaborated with Belchertown's Channel 5 to provide a workshop entitled "A Sampling of Massachusetts State Fairs" at the Massachusetts State Fair Convention.

The Committee looks forward to an even more successful Fair and Parade in 2002 and is deeply appreciative of the support provided by many dedicated volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla M. Chaisson, Treasurer
on behalf of the Belchertown Fair and
Parade Committee

BELCHERTOWN FAMILY CENTER

The Belchertown Family Center moved into its new home in the Franklin School in July 2001, and we would like to report that our operation at this new location has been an overwhelming success. Our numbers are steadily increasing; we have over ninety families on our roster and new families are attending each week. The new location is ideal for the age group (birth to school-age) we are servicing. Volunteers have spent many hours cleaning and decorating the center so that it now provides a great atmosphere for learning and growing. We offer a castle room for fine motor skills, a garden room for infants, a circus room for gross motor activities, a craft room, and an ocean themed snack room. We believe there is a direct correlation between the quality of our new center and the constant increase in attendance.

Research continues to find that the early childhood years are critical in relation to children's emotional and physical development. Our goal for the children is to facilitate growth in the areas of fine and gross motor skills, conceptual development, language skills, and most of all social development. This is achieved through play stations, snack areas, story times, and craft projects. The services that we provide are in ever growing demand, especially in Belchertown where the 0-5 year age group is projected to double by 2020.

The Belchertown Family Center operates as a volunteer organization supporting young children and their parents. Through the huge volunteer efforts of our parents and caregivers and small grants, we are able to be open for three two-hour sessions each week (Tuesday 9:30-11:30, Wednesday 12:30-2:30, and Friday 9:30-11:30). We also provide other services, such as educational programs for parents, learning opportunities for children, and community enrichment programs all of which are open to the public. This year's activities included: A Family Fun Night (70 attended), a musical demonstration, an Ice Cream Social with the singer Donna Lee (125 attended), Playground Theater Production (129 attended), Three Parent Workshops (speech, reading, child care), Easter Egg Hunt (620 attending), a booth at the Fair providing a baby nursing and changing station, a float in the Fair's parade (1st prize), CPR course, Forest Park Zoo on the Go, Fire Department visit, a Halloween Party, Thanksgiving family style dinner, and a visit by Santa Claus.

Overall, 2001 a very successful year, and we anticipate the Family Center's impact and usefulness to the community of Belchertown to grow and flourish over the coming years.

Respectfully submitted,
Angie Tauer
Lucy Klein
Karen Horak
Katherine Atkinson
Widi Wumaryono

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department has had another thriving year with immense support from our Citizens. Our commitment towards life safety and property conservation is our primary dedication to the community. This is only accomplished through efforts of the firefighters, their families, friends, and the great support we receive from our Federal, State, and Local government.

The firefighters enjoyed the ongoing efforts to make another booming ice-skating rink on the north end of the town common. A long winter with above average snowfall contributed to the success of the ice-rink. The pancake breakfasts have been becoming a tradition and greatly received and attended by the public.

The fire department had a very prosperous year with many new additions of technology. The town took delivery on a new fire engine/pumper. The citizen's gratefully supported the total cost of $ 277,000.00, which the Firefighters Association from their annual fundraising raffle receipts contributed an $ 8,400.00 portion. The department was also in good fortune to receive a $ 20,000.00 State grant for a Thermal Imaging Camera, a second State grant for fire education consisting of $ 4,500.00, a third grant of Federal funds for $ 36,000.00 for firefighters training equipment and support aids, and a fourth grant secured from a local charitable organization in the amount of $ 18,000.00 for a new set of rescue tools, "Jaws of Life". This added equipment has been a tremendous boost in improving our technology, training, safety, and level of services to all.

Annually the average in house training available to the membership consists of 180 hours. This year due to all the new technology and equipment received, our learning skills peeked just over 500 hours of in house training. The dedication demonstrated by the ongoing activities, along with the additional training is an example of the magnanimity and tradition carried on for many years. There are 45 call / volunteers with 570 years of firefighting experience protecting Belchertown.

Fire Prevention and Education activities still continue to increase with little relief. The increase of home dwellings, commercial structures, and many new proposed housing developments create inspection demands and added services that have overburden this department's full-time staff. More full-time staff is needed and must be considered shortly.

The Student Awareness Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) program was continued within the school district. With the ongoing support from the school committee, the teachers, and the firefighters have made this program a real success story with actual documented safe exits of dwellings or positive outcomes from youngsters in stressful emergency situations.

It is very rewarding to recognize the commitment the Citizens make to this department, and the benefits that the fire department can provide back to the community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Edward F. Bock, Fire Chief

Inspections and Permits

Open Burning	848
Oil Burners	232
Propane Tanks	099
Smoke Detectors	316
Underground Tank Removals	019
Permits to maintain storage	003
Blasting	017
Total Inspections & Permits:	**1534**

Types of Responses 2001

Structure Fires	32
Vehicle Fires	18
Vehicle Extrications	08
Forest, Brush, Grass	52
In Service Response	09
Investigations	60
C.O. Detectors	07
Alarm Sounding	63
Mutual Aid	09
Un-permitted Burning	02
Appliance Malfunction	94
Total Responses	**354**

Members of the Fire Department

Deputy Chiefs
Hugh Hubbard
James Hodgen

Captains
John Workman
Timothy Lofland
Richard McGinnis
Bruce Officer
Robert Hodgen

Lieutenants
Richard Knight
Edward D. Fuller
Ronald Beaver
David Auchter

Auxiliary Firefighters
Patrick McMorrow
Patience Monty
Scott Chapman
Gilbert Ocasio

Firefighters
David Gay
Max Bock
William Shattuck, Jr.
Paul Tierney
Donald Thayer
William Chapman
Michael Samson
Edward L. Fuller
Ted Covill
Melissa Conrad
Steven Williams
Paul Salvatore
Scott Cameron
Darryn Beaudry
Tom Cooke
Edward Knight
Paul Greene
Scott Rae
Leonard Boisjolie
Matt Rivest
Jeff Scott
Jeremy Gemme

BOARD OF HEALTH

During the 2001 calendar year, the Board of Health continued to work toward improving the quality of services provided to the citizens of Belchertown. The Board accomplished its mission of protecting the health of residents and complying with applicable local, state and federal regulations via its monthly meeting, special meetings, and project-specific work performed by Board members and staff. The Board consists of 5 members, elected for 3-year terms. The activities and functions of the Board were carried out through the supportive efforts of the staff members of the Quabbin Health District. The District serves the communities of Pelham and Ware in addition to Belchertown.

Review and approval of septic plans remained a significant task of the Board and staff. With the growth in home purchases and construction in town, Title V regulations continued to place substantial time demands on the Board and staff. A total of 171 septic permits were approved; 106 new construction and 65 repairs. This represents a 36% increase from calendar year 2000. During the year, the Board also acted on 13 local upgrades or variance requests to Title V. All these variance requests were for repairs to existing properties. The Board continued to issue all applicable permits and licenses for food establishments, tobacco retail sales, well construction and other services such as tanning salons, piggery, massage therapy, funeral parlor and septic installers.

The issue of tobacco control remained a concern for the Board in 2001. Faced with severe budget reductions from the state health department, the Quabbin Health District voted in late 2000, to not accept a very limited contract for tobacco control funding. The Belchertown Board of Health continued to explore ways to enforce its local tobacco control regulation in the absence of state funds. Board members and part-time temporary personnel performing enforcement inspections were explored.

In late 2001, the newly revised state code governing food-handling practices in public establishments such as restaurants and schools took effect. This new code will play a major role in protecting the public from the risk of food-borne illness. Staff and Board members underwent significant training about the new code and enacted new procedures for enforcement. The Board and staff recognized the extensive efforts of local restaurants and food establishments to educate their employees and management about the new code and the additional requirements to meet the more stringent standards.

Board members and staff continued to keep informed of new and emerging issues in public health via training seminars and workshops. Members attended the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards Certification and Training program. At this and other seminars, special emphasis was on the new food code and emerging public health concern such as West Nile virus. The Board of Health office continues to serve as the central location in town hall for the distribution of health education materials and other assistance on public health issues.

Year 2001 Permit Activity

115	Well Permits: 102 New Construction - 13 Replacements
171	Septic Permits: 106 New Construction – 65 Repairs
33	Food Establishment Permits
5	Limited Food Establishment Permits
13	Retail Food Permits
0	Residential Kitchen Permit
7	Massage Therapy Licenses
2	Tanning Unit Permits
1	Ecology Can Permit
1	Funeral Parlor License
5	Hauler's Permits
1	Public Pool Permit
1	Temporary Food Permits: 29 Belchertown Fair
1	Day Camp Permit
1	Piggery Permit
1	Frozen Dessert License
1	Mobil Home License
12	Tobacco Retail Permits
28	Installer's Permits
35	Milk & Cream Licenses

Respectfully Submitted,

The Belchertown Board of Health
Leonard Belisle, Chairman
Roger Bonsall, Vice-Chair
Gail Gramarossa
Gary Racicot
Lisa Walters-Zucco RN

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT

The following contagious diseases and animal bites were reported for the Town of Belchertown in 2001:

Animal Bites:

Cat bites: 1
Dog bites: 14
Bat bites: 1

Reportable Diseases:

Lyme: 6
Chicken Pox: 3
Hepatitis B: 1
Hepatitis C: 5
Salmonella: 2
GroupA Strep: 1

The control of communicable diseases remains a very important focus of our public health program. Our surveillance and control objectives are as follows:

- receive and process disease reports
- maintain patient confidentiality
- investigate source or possible transmission mode
- enforce quarantine and isolation laws
- ensure access to medical testing and treatment
- educate to reduce risk.

Our efforts are dependent on cooperation from area physicians and hospitals. To have a successful infectious disease control program, we must receive reports in a timely fashion.

Jane Beckland, R.N., from Mary Lane Hospital's Visiting Nurse Association, investigates all contagious disease reports received by the Board of Health Office. The Board has a contract with that organization to provide public health nursing services to Belchertown residents.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Metcalf, R.S., C.H.O.
Director of Public Health

ANIMAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT

- Dog bites: 15
- Cat bites: 18
- Bat bites: 1
- Dogs quarantined for possible rabies: 10
- Cats quarantined for possible rabies: 8

There was one positive cases of rabies reported and that was the bat bite on May 9, 2001.

Eighteen farms have been inspected with all in good condition.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Stedman
Animal Inspector

QUABBIN HEALTH DISTRICT

The Quabbin Health District is a regional health department serving the communities of Belchertown, Ware, and Pelham. It was established by town meeting vote in 1980 and is the joint effort of the local Boards of Health to provide their towns with public health professionals and services. Our primary duties center on enforcing provisions of the State Sanitary Code and Environmental Code under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health. We also provide technical assistance and educational services to residents and other municipal departments. The Quabbin Health District serves a total population of approximately 25,000 residents in an area of about 120 square miles in Hampshire County.

The following table lists the major inspection services provided to each town in the District during 2001.

	Belchertown	Ware	Pelham
Perc Tests & Soil Evaluations - New and Repairs	174	112	22
Septic Application review- New Construction	106	41	3
Septic Application review- repairs	65	21	11
Septic Installation Inspections	132	50	14
Local Upgrade/Variance reviews	13	6	9
Well Application review- New Construction	102	N/A	2
Well Application Review- repairs	13	N/A	3
Subdivision Review	7	3	0
Housing Inspections- upon complaint	5	20	1
Housing re-inspections	4	46	2
Rental Voucher Inspections- upon request	2	17	0
Lead Paint Inspections	0	3	0
Housing Violation Hearings	0	9	0
Housing Court Appearances	0	16	0
Condemnations/ number of buildings	0	4	0
Food service inspections- routine & follow-up	89	17	2
Mobile/ inspections temporary food	29	11	1
Nuisance inspections and re-inspections	11	26	6
Public Bathing Beach Inspections	1	N/A	N/A
Public Swimming Pool Inspections	1	1	N/A
West Nile Virus Bird Sampling	2	2	0
Beaver Activity/Dam Complaints	5	3	0
Recreational Camp Inspections	1	0	0
Tanning Salon Inspections	1	2	0
Attendance at Board or Committee Meetings	20	18	7

	Belchertown	Ware	Pelham
TOTAL ACTIVITY BY TOWN	783	428	83
GRAND TOTAL for 2001			1294

The Quabbin Health District Board of Directors met in 2001, with the annual budget meeting being held in October. The Board of Directors is composed of the elected Board of Health members from the communities within the District. The meeting place rotates among the three Town Halls.

District employees serve on a number of committees and advisory groups: Town of Belchertown Americans with Disabilities Committee, Town of Belchertown GIS Committee and the Hampshire County Insurance Advisory Committee.
We also belong to and participate in a number of professional organizations: Massachusetts Health Officers Association, Western Mass Public Health Association, Massachusetts Environmental Health Association, and the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards. An ongoing activity of personnel is to participate in continuing education seminars and training sessions sponsored by various Federal and State agencies as well as professional groups. Seminars attended during the year 2001 included Bioterrorism, Federal Food Code Enforcement Training, Communication for Enforcement Officials, and Lyme Disease. In addition, staff earned credits from the Centers for Disease Control for successfully completing courses on the Use of Anthrax Vaccine in the US, Small Pox Immunization Practices and Prevention and Control of Influenza.

I would like to thank members of the District Board of Directors for their continued support. I would also like to acknowledge my co-workers: Randall Gauley, Health Inspector; Helen Kutt, Administrative Assistant; Deborah Beaulieu, Senior Clerk, for their hard work and dedication.

Sincerely,

Judy Metcalf, R.S., C.H.O.
Director of Public Health
Quabbin Health District

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Commission met with property owners within the Historic District during the past year on proposed changes to their properties. Two public hearings were held regarding changes to properties within the Historic District. A "certificate of appropriateness" was issued on one project. The owner of the other property has put his project on hold and will come forward to complete the process when he makes a decision to go forward. We would like to thank the property owners who have shared their vision of the improvements and changes that they intended to make with us during the course of the past year.

In October 2001, the Selectmen appointed Ms. Stacey Race as a new member of the Commission. At the past few meetings, we have discussed the need for adding alternate members to the Commission. Such members would be able to vote should a Commission Member excuse themselves from voting due to a conflict or appearance of a conflict on matters that may come before the Commission. We will pursue this during the coming year.

Some projects that we have been working on during 2001 will come to fruition during 2002. Historic District signs should be appearing at the entrance of the District by the early spring. We are also working on developing a walking tour brochure and organizing at lease one walk during the coming year. Work has begun on creating a Register of Historic Places plaque program for houses within the District. Other homes within Belchertown would be able to participate in this program if property owners are able to document the age and historical significance of their properties. We are also proposing to orchestrate a "Ghost Tour" in collaboration with the Historic Association.

The Historic District Commission was established at the Annual Town Meeting May 1990. Its purpose is to protect the Belchertown Common's character as the historic center of the Town. The general boundaries of the area that is regulated include that area bounded by East Walnut Street on the north side; Park Street on the east side, Jabish Street on the south side; Main Street on the west side and the Belchertown Town Common. This area has been recognized for its historic and architecturally significant qualities. Any proposed change or alternation to the exterior of any property, that is visible from the public purview, or any new construction must be reviewed by the Commission. Any such alteration or building may be subject to a formal review process before a building permit can be obtained. Copies of the District By-Laws, maps and application forms are available in the office of the Town Clerk. The Commission is always available to respond to your particular concern.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Curry, III, Chairman
Jacqueline Dupre
Lou Faassen
Stacey Race
Annie Steiner

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

During 2001, two new Historical Commission members, Judith Gillan and Kenneth Kitchell, joined Jim Chevalier and Chair Leslie Squires. Leslie oriented new members to prior Commission projects, including the placement of plaques on historic structures, and encouraged members to select a new project as the focus of Commission work.

Kenneth Kitchell proposed a renewed effort to document Belchertown cemeteries, including genealogical information and historic markets. The project, enthusiastically supported by Commission members, will include collaboration with schools and local historians, and the sponsorship of public-interest events. Members met with town officials to review existing cemetery records, and interviewed Bob Drinkwater and Lee Forsythe, who were funded in 1989, by the Mass. Arts Lottery Council, to photograph "all extant pre-1860 gravestones in nine Belchertown cemeteries, documenting the decorative and symbolic art used by early carvers in the area". A highlight of the year's work was the discovery of these photographs, thought to be missing, in storage in Town Hall.

There are 11 cemeteries in Belchertown:

- Kimball Street Cemetery
- Evergreen Cemetery (off Munsell Road) Brown Cemetery (off Gulf Road)
- Dwight Cemetery
- Lake Vale Cemetery
- Rural Cemetery
- Mt Hope Cemetery
- South Cemetery
- Hill Top Cemetery (in Skeeterville)
- South Washington Street Cemetery
- Bowler Cemetery

Mt. Hope Cemetery, Off Park Street

The Commission will add necessary information to existing but incomplete cemetery maps (Mt. Hope and South) and create new maps, showing location, size, and the location of head stones, trees and bushes, and roads. Wording on gravestones will be documented, on paper as well as by photograph. The Commission's goal is to get all information, including photographs, on computer, and make it available for genealogical research. Additional goals are to work closely with Belchertown schools, and to sponsor several community events such as lectures and cemetery "walks" or tours. Commission members believe that Belchertown's historic markers may be of interest to tourists as well.

With the discovery that cemetery inventory projects may receive state funding, interviews and meetings with sponsors of successful projects were arranged. Members of the Sunderland Commission were supportive and helpful, and encouraged meetings with state agency personnel. Commission members met with the Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission Preservation Planner, Bonnie Parsons, in August. She outlined steps required in an inventory process, the first step being transferring all current information to Mass Historic Commission inventory forms. One form is required for each burial ground; Commission members must then confirm this information with a visit to each cemetery. Bonnie agreed to review the final forms; they will enable the Commission to approach the state (Mass Historic Commission (MHC) and Department of Environmental Management) for funding to support further work. Bonnie can offer the Commission several hours of consultation as it proceeds.

The Commission also contacted Christopher Skelley, the MHC Director of Local Government Programs. He requested an update on the status of the Belchertown Commission and requested a visit early in 2002. He provided an information package on Commission responsibilities and opportunities, which has been copied and provided to all Commission members.

The Commission will welcome new members who are interested in helping it achieve its ambitious goals. Those interested should contact Leslie Squires, Commission Chair.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie E. Squires, Chairman
James Chevalier
Judith Gillan
Kenneth Kitchell, Jr.

HOLIDAY LIGHTING COMMITTEE

Because of the difficulty of scheduling, the Holiday Lighting Committee held no meetings in 2001. Meetings have been scheduled for 1/3 and 2/7/2002, with the goal of finalizing the work of the committee. Funds remaining in the Holiday Lighting Account are to be used to pay outstanding bills; wire the remaining holiday lighting fixtures; and any balance will be carried forward for maintenance and the purchase of new lamps as original lamps burn out. Certificates for major donors have been prepared for mailing; and a plaque is being ordered, affixed to which will be the names (and/or honorees) of donors who purchased an entire star or snowflake with bracket. The plaque will reside in Lawrence Memorial Hall. The Committee is happy to report that the community has continued to express pleasure and pride in our Holiday Lighting display.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Dutton
Debra Grudgen
Jay Rossi
Peg Louraine

BELCHERTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Belchertown Housing Authority administers four state-aided projects. Everett Acres on Everett Avenue is a forty-eight unit complex built and administered under the Chapter 667 Elderly/Disabled Housing Program. East Walnut Street, 45 State Street, and 95 George Hannum Road were built and are administered under the Chapter 689 Housing for people with special needs program. The two, three and four bedroom units at 45 State Street and 95 George Hannum Road were built under Chapter 705 Family Housing Program.

Eligibility for housing is based on age or being disabled, family size, and income. The current maximum net annual income for eligibility is $28,800 for one person, $32,900 for two, $37,000 for three, $41,100 for four and up to $54,300 for a family of eight.

Tenants at Everett Acres pay thirty percent of their net monthly income for rent, which includes all utilities. While rents vary widely according to each tenant's income and deductions, the average rent is $273 per month. Everett Acres is fully occupied with 18 applications currently on file waiting for units at this time.

East Walnut Street site is fully occupied. Three of the two bedroom units are leased to the Department of Mental Retardation at a rent that covers all operating expenses. The fourth two-bedroom unit is leased to an eligible individual.

One unit at 45 State Street and one unit at 95 George Hannum Road are also under lease to the Department of Mental Retardation and provide housing for eligible recipients. The rent received covers all operating expenses. The Authority receives no state subsidy for these units. The Fiscal Year 2002 operating budget for the 689 special needs units is $49,220.

The twelve family units are fully occupied with several new tenants in the past year. The residents in these units pay twenty-five percent of their income for rent. They are responsible for their utility bills. While rents are based on each family's income and vary widely, the average rent is $421 per month. There are currently 19 applicants on the waiting list for the 705 family units. The two-bedroom family waiting list is closed. The three and four bedroom family lists remain open though we have more applicants than we can reasonably expect to house in the next two years.

The fiscal 2002 operating budget for the elderly/disabled and family housing has anticipated expenses of $242,871 with a projected income of $220,088. An anticipated deficit of $22,783.00 stemming from the increase in utilities and the provision for Capital Reserves will result in a subsidy from Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Authority also administers 30 units of Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Rental Assistance under the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The budget for the housing allowance program for fiscal 2002 is $159,119 with full funding provided by HUD.

Under this program, the Authority assists low-income elderly, disabled persons, and families in paying their rent. Eligible individuals are issued a voucher to locate and rent decent, safe, and affordable housing of their choice in the privately owned market that meets the program's criteria. The Housing Authority actively promotes the program to local private landlords. Participants pay thirty percent of their monthly income for rent and utilities and the Authority pays the balance directly to the landlord. However, the rents of these units must be reasonable. To ensure rent reasonableness, the Authority attempts to determine what the standard market rents are for Belchertown from local landlords. We currently have 55 applications on file and don’t anticipate opening the waiting list until 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Dodge, Chair
Kenneth D. Nolan
James Gambaro
F.Knowlton Utley, State Appointee
Tracey Thompson

INSPECTION SERVICES

The Inspection Services Department noticed a slight increase in single-family new construction permit applications for year 2001, numbering 97, nine more over the 2000 figure of 88. The total number of building permits for the year totaled 497.

Paul Adzima continues to serve as the Building Inspector as well as the ADA Liaison, Weights and Measures Inspector and Zoning Enforcement Officer. Michael Henry continues to serve as Assistant Building Inspector. David Fredenburgh is continues to serve as primary Plumbing and Gas Inspector and Christopher Hubbard is serving as Assistant Plumbing and Gas Inspector. Douglas Rae retired as Primary Electrical Inspector. Paul Choiniere assumed the title of Primary Electrical Inspector. Harvey Beaupre is currently serving as Assistant Electrical Inspector.

Construction for the new Belchertown High School continues and is ahead of schedule. Other commercial building this year included the CVS addition and the new Post Office. Both projects are a work in progress as of this report.

New software was purchased for the Building Department that will enable the Department to create building, electrical, plumbing and gas permits, and follows their progress more accurately. The Department hopes to have this program in operation by early spring of 2002.

BUILDING PERMITS	**2001**	**REVENUE**
Single Family Residence	97	$44,013.40
Multi Family Residence	1	$700.00
Business/Commerical	5	$5,298.40
Additions/Alterations/Repairs	175	$9,795.00
Shed/Barn/Garage/Deck	119	$7,506.40
Wood/Pellett Stoves	22	$560.00
Demolitions	6	$120.00
Pools	45	$1,172.00
Signs	13	$298.00
Misc. Building Permits	14	$105.00
TOTAL BUILDING PERMITS	497	$69,568.20

NON-BUILDING PERMITS		
Certificate of Inspection	26	$2,025.00
Weights & Measures	4	$485.00
Home Occupation Permits	28	$405.00
TOTAL MISC. PERMITS	58	$2,915.00
UTILITY PERMITS		
Electrical	415	$22,574.00
Plumbing	171	$8,850.00
Gas	113	$4,650.00
TOTAL UTILITY PERMITS	1809	$36,074.00
TOTAL 2001 PERMITS	2364	
TOTAL 2001 REVENUE		$108,557.20

PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District Committee presents this report to the citizens of the District. The Committee continued to consist of nine members – two each from Belchertown and Palmer – and one from each of the communities of Granby, Hardwick, Monson, New Braintree, and Ware. Because the November 2000 election failed to produce a representative from Granby, the Board of Selectmen and School Committee--acting jointly-- appointed Elizabeth Desrochers to serve until the next election.

Pathfinder's School Council—consisting of three parents, two teachers, two students, a community member, and a college representative and co-chaired by Pathfinder's Assistant Superintendent—has continued to provide guidance and direction to the administration in its efforts to improve the educational experience of students attending Pathfinder.

CURRICULUM

Superintendent Gerald Paist and Assistant Superintendent David Andersen identified a number of curriculum initiatives undertaken during the year:

- The staff developed and implemented a variety of creative steps to help students improve their performance on the MCAS tests. These included Saturday classes, remedial classes for writing skills during the students' vocational week, practice answering open-ended questions in all classes, and use of staff published activities in English and mathematics.
- After a year of intensive preparation, the Auto Body/Collision Repair Program was awarded full certification by the National Automotive Technical Education Foundation (NATEF). Possession of this certification has enabled Pathfinder to upgrade its curriculum and better meet the needs of students as well as area employers.
- A faculty team consisting of one teacher each from mathematics, language arts, carpentry, and computers, has initiated research on better integrating vocational and academic instruction and learning. This research will lead to joint projects between shops and a better understanding on the students' part of the need for better academic preparation.
- Staff members continued the rigorous self-evaluation in preparation for the April 2002 accreditation visit by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.
- Students in the Carpentry, Electrical, Heating/Air Conditioning, and Horticulture programs are currently working on construction of a Cape style home with an attached garage in Palmer.

In late October, Pathfinder's administrators received the scores from the April MCAS administration for the Class of 2003. The results were outstanding. Eighty percent of the 147 students who took the test passed the English portion, and 69% passed the mathematics portion. These results compared favorably with the statewide averages of 82% and 75%, respectively.

This dramatic improvement was widely recognized and publicized throughout the Commonwealth. Of the 1800 schools involved in MCAS testing, Pathfinder ranked in the top ten for showing the most improvement from the previous year's results. For this accomplishment, Pathfinder received an award of $10,000 from the Edgerly Foundation of Cambridge. The presentation of this award was conducted with considerable fanfare. Chairman William Edgerly of the Foundation, Commissioner of Education David Driscoll, area legislators, and school committee members attended the ceremony on December 7th. A portion of this event was recorded and broadcast on Channel 40 News. Dr. Paist and David Andersen, along with school officials from other Edgerly Foundation winners, attended a reception given by Acting Governor Jane Swift in her office at the State House.

Municipal and community service projects continued to be important components of the Pathfinder curriculum for upper class students. A sample of such efforts during the past year include the following:

- Electrical students completed temporary electric service for the holiday display at Hyrniewicz Park in Three Rivers. Horticulture students cleared trees and branches to allow better access to the work site.
- Students in Auto Body and Collision Repair restored a utility truck for the State Police and completed vehicle repairs for both the Bondsville and Three Rivers Fire and Water Departments.
- Cosmetology students provided services to the Monson Senior Center and the Hawthorn Adult Health Centers. Additionally, they provided hair and make-up services to the Granby Arts Council and the Monson Theatre for their performances.
- Students in Carpentry built and installed cabinets for the Assessors' Office in Ware.
- Building Services students cleaned the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce offices on a bi-weekly basis.
- Students in the Office Business Program printed and assembled large quantities of municipal reports for the town of New Braintree and completed various projects for the Chamber of Commerce.
- Machine students fabricated and repaired a number of pieces of equipment for the State Police.
- Students in Health Occupations -- in conjunction with the Student Council -- organized and conducted a blood drive for the American Red Cross.
- Students in the Electronics Program repaired computers and other electronic equipment for area schools and municipal departments.

Over 50 students qualified for and took part in the Cooperative Education Program. A variety of local employers, who deal directly with the public, continued to seek students with good basic job skills and a strong work ethic.

STUDENT BODY

Pathfinder's October 1st enrollment included 671 students, including the following numbers from member towns: Belchertown 107; Granby 53; Hardwick 22; Monson 88; New Braintree 11; Palmer 125; and Ware 95. The remaining 170 students were residents out-of-district communities.
During this past year, the Guidance Office—which also serves as the Admissions Office—received 399 applications for admission in September. Pathfinder once again offered a wide variety of opportunities for area parents and their children to learn about and visit the school. There were two Open House Programs—one in the fall and another in the spring. The Summer Career/Sports Camp and the Afternoon Exploratory Program for 7th and 8th grade students continued to attract large numbers of enthusiastic participants.

Director of Guidance Mark Condon reported that, of the applications received for the 2001-02 school year, 345 were for the 175 available 9th grade openings. Once again, transfer opportunities into the 10th and 11th grades were limited, and there was a waiting list for space in grades 9, 10, and 11.

The Pathfinder Chapter of the National Vocational-Technical Honor Society inducted a deserving group of new and existing members in an impressive ceremony. The Chapter continued the practice of inviting Renaissance Award-winners who demonstrated potential for eventual selection into the Society as guests. The induction was moved to an earlier time in the school year so that senior inductees could include this recognition on college, scholarship, and work applications in a timelier manner.

Pathfinder's selection to represent the school at the Annual Vocational Student Awards Program sponsored by the Massachusetts Vocational Association and the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators was Palmer resident Russell Bukowski, a student in the Computer Information Program. Russell earned a 3.86 grade point average, was a member of the National Vocational Technical Honor Society for two years, participated in varsity football, and graduated as the valedictorian of his class. Russell filmed, directed, and edited a senior class video production, which was reviewed by local television personality Cy Becker. He not only gave it a rousing 4 stars, but he also appeared in a cameo role for the film that was enthusiastically endorsed by the entire student body.

In June 2001, the graduating class of 113 students received diplomas and technical certificates at commencement exercises. Approximately 71% of the graduates were working or had plans to continue their education at the post-secondary level, while another 8% made commitments to serving in the military. Articulation agreements with local colleges continued to have a positive effect on Pathfinder seniors, encouraging them to continue their education with advanced credit. Interest in four-year colleges also continued to be a popular option for graduating seniors.

The Scholarship Committee awarded approximately $25,000 in scholarships to members of the Class of 2001. Once again, state and local organizations—as well as individuals—continued to recognize the ability and potential of Pathfinder graduates in the form of generous donations. The school committee, administration, and the graduates themselves are grateful for this support, and they are especially proud of the number of awards that have been made to honor the memory of former Pathfinder students and friends.

STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ATHLETICS

Several special presentations and community outreach programs showcased our students' talents and caring for the community:

- A blood drive was held in January during which faculty and students contributed 72 pints, resulting in a commendation from the Red Cross.
- A benefit that raised over $2,000 for a former Pathfinder student was held in February.
- The annual talent show was expanded to two performances.
- The Drama Club continued their production schedule with two plays: *The Dance of the Hunger of Kaa* and *The Bear of Bluestone*.
- The Peer Education group invited Jennifer Putnam from the Ronald McDonald House to discuss their work.
- The Student Council-- in collaboration with the peer educators--sponsored a "Toys for Tots" drive, which collected over 300 toys and over $500 in cash

donations. A Thanksgiving food drive was also held which collected over 25 turkeys. The food was distributed with the assistance of Valley Human Services of Ware.

- Pathfinder's highly successful Renaissance Program rewarded students with many incentives for improving performance, maintaining regular attendance, and demonstrating excellence in their vocational and academic activities.
- The mentoring program proved significant in the retention of larger numbers of freshman students and in the training of juniors.

Director of Athletics Donald Irzyk reported another successful year, which saw four varsity teams qualify for post-season tournaments. Approximately 200 students—some 22 percent of the student body--participated in athletics, including a substantial number of freshmen.

In the spring, the varsity baseball team qualified for the Western Mass. Tournament for the seventh consecutive year. The girls' softball team qualified for both the Western Mass. Tournament and the state vocational schools tournament.

The varsity football team concluded its best record to date, finishing with a 7-2 record. The first annual Thanksgiving game with Belchertown took place with an impressive 48-24 win. Four members of the football team were selected as members of the Springfield *Sunday Republican's* All Western Mass. Team, including Jesse Allen and Cory Goulet as first team choices. The Springfield Newspapers also honored Jesse Allen as an "Athlete of the Week."

Both boys' and girls' soccer teams qualified for the Western Mass. Tournament. The girls' team also played in the state vocational schools tournament where they lost in the semi-finals.

Seasonal awards programs took place at the conclusion of each sports season. Brian Chapin, Derek Pereira, and Jen Smith were selected as the outstanding senior athletes for the 2000-01 school year.

SPECIAL SERVICES

During 2001, the Special Education Department continued to provide high quality services for all eligible special education students. In addition to the excellent staff already in place, the Department selected a new Vocational Modifier to work with students in the shop areas as well as a new aide who will assist in the transition that will occur as a result of a pending retirement.

The Department continued to provide academic and vocational instruction to students in grades 9-12 and to students attending the Modified Vocational Instruction Program (MVIP). The Department will be working to comply with new regulations that align Massachusetts with federal special education law.

The IEP Planner/Liaison and TEAM teacher for the MVIP Program conducted TEAM evaluations, annual reviews, and diagnostic reviews for 59 students in the MVIP Program and 120 students in grades 9-12. These numbers represent a slight increase over the previous year. Twenty-six additional re-evaluations were conducted.

The Department currently includes 17 professional teachers, 8 teacher aides, and one oral interpreter for a deaf student. Among the professionals are a Speech Therapist, School Psychologist, and Occupational Therapist. The Speech Therapist provided services in both small group settings and individual speech and language therapy to approximately 63 students. The School Psychologist provided individual and small group counseling to approximately 100 students on a regular or intermittent basis. She also maintained contact with area probation and mental health agencies in matters affecting Pathfinder students. The Occupational Therapist worked with 37 students in adaptive physical education classes, health and life skills, and in occupational therapy services.

Pathfinder provided Resource Room instruction for all major courses offered in grades 9-12. World History and American Centuries courses were aligned with the Curriculum Frameworks and MCAS tests. Resource Mathematics featured an integrated approach to algebra and geometry, and higher grade mathematics emphasized consumer-oriented concepts, including payroll, budgeting, shopping, insurance, financing/credit, mortgages, and taxes.

Resource English included a variety of novels, short stories, and vocabulary exercises, with special emphasis placed on responding to open-ended questions. Finally, Resource Science focused on general science, biology, and environmental curricula with activities that included oral and written assignments and informative field trips.

The MVIP Program continued to operate at full capacity with 59 students, 26 of which reside in member communities. Components of the program included:

- Office Business. Students work on printing, duplicating, and collating brochures and mailings for member communities and non-profit groups.
- Building Services. Students learn care of interior surfaces and coverings, building exteriors and grounds, and the use of some hand and power tools necessary in this line of work.
- Life Skills. Developmentally delayed students learn individual self-sufficiency and job skills.
- Horticulture. Students learn maintenance of greenhouse and vegetable gardens, landscape maintenance, and floral design.
- Auto Reconditioning. Students learn the basics of cleaning and polishing cars along with professional workmanship, and they provide this service to the public.
- Food Services. Students learn the basics of food preparation and service and assist in the preparation and production of the daily school lunch.

This past year, the MVIP program graduated 13 students, 12 of which are currently employed.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Utilizing the Department of Education's Unified Request for Proposals, Pathfinder submitted and received grants for the following programs and/or purposes:

Fund Code	Program Name	Allocation
240	IDEA Special Education These funds were used to support an Alternative Drop-out Prevention Program, provide in-service training, professional development and supplies for the shop and academic classrooms.	$132,323
274	SPED Access to the Curriculum This project provided support for study groups to modify the general curriculum to better suit the needs of special education students.	$6,000
302	Title VI This program provided funds to the school library to continue membership in the Newsbank Computer Network.	$3,450
303	Eisenhower Math and Science These monies supported professional development for mathematics and science teachers.	$2,703
305	Title I This funding provided for a full- time teacher aide who assists in the reading and writing labs. It also supported a teacher who worked with small groups of students in mathematics and language arts.	$53,302
331	Safe and Drug Free Schools These funds supported two mentors who worked with student groups and also organized relevant activities to acquaint local elementary school students with the dangers associated with drug and alcohol use.	$2,525
400	Carl Perkins Vocational Education The grant from this federal program enabled the school to offer professional development and to purchase equipment and supplies for shops that enrolled high percentages of special populations.	$69,342
651	Class Size Reduction These monies utilized a part-time staff member to reduce the size of specific classes.	$13,078
346/349	Health Protection Allocation These monies provided outside counseling for specialized groups, primarily emphasizing the elimination of tobacco use.	$14,015
626	Academic Support Services Program This grant was used to provide a Saturday morning program for students who did not score well on their 8th grade MCAS tests.	$22,800
	Department of Youth Services The Summer DYS program served Gandara students for a period of four weeks.	$5,616
	Summer Youth Employment Program These funds provided paid employment and academic enhancement for indistrict and out- of- school youth for 4 weeks in the summer and all school year.	$79,439
	TOTAL	$404,593

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The school committee wishes to give recognition to the following special programs and activities, which took place during the year.

In cooperation with the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce and area school systems, Pathfinder continued to play a leadership role in the implementation of the federal School-to-Work Opportunities Act. Among the activities sponsored by this program were:

- Teacher/mentor training at business work sites
- Improvement in curriculum to better meet the needs of area businesses
- Job shadowing and internships for students in grades 11-12
- Utilization of an updated version of "Expan," a college/career search program
- Career interest and exploratory program for seventh and selected eighth grade students.

Pathfinder conducted its Career/Sports Camp again during the summer months. A total of 189 youngsters between the ages of 9 and 13 attended one of four one-week sessions, each of which lasted for 5 days. Those areas offered were carpentry, cosmetology, computers, computer-assisted drafting, food services, electronics, and environmental explorers. Career instruction took place in the morning, followed by sporting events: volleyball, soccer, basketball, and archery. The last hour of each day was spent in the pool at Palmer High School.

Two hundred thirty youngsters took part in Pathfinder's Afternoon Youth Program during the school year. The program operated one day each week and included nine career areas: automotive, carpentry, cosmetology, computers, CAD, culinary arts, horticulture, and electronics. The classes ran for eight weeks for two hours each day. Parent and student satisfaction with this program has been extraordinary, and it has served as an excellent introduction to the school and its environment.

Pathfinder once again received a grant from the Regional Employment Board under the Work Investment Act. During the summer, twenty-five in-school youths and seven out-of-school youths from Hampden County were placed at various non-profit job sites for the morning, then returned to the school for academic and vocational enrichment.

One hundred forty-four students from 14 different area schools took advantage of the 2001 Summer School Program. Twelve academic courses, a Related Workshop, and a Shop Hour Workshop were offered. The program attempted to assist students to change or modify poor work habits and to provide them with strategies for becoming more successful in the ensuing school year.

Under the direction of Kenneth Heim, the Evening School experienced a gradual increase both in course offerings and in enrollment. In the fall of 2001, there were 225 students from 16 communities in 22 courses ranging from self-improvement to vocational training and computer concepts. A greater investment in marketing and advertising resulted in an attractive and informative brochure that was mailed to all residents of the District.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Currently the staff includes 38 vocational and related teachers, 18 professionals in special education, 25 academic teachers, 2 guidance counselors, and 10 teacher aides. The Committee welcomed new faculty members in carpentry, English and special education. It also acknowledged, with thanks, the long time service of Assistant Superintendent David LaPierre, who assumed the superintendency of a neighboring vocational high school, and Janet Sullivan, who retired from the position of secretary to the Assistant Director.

With the departure of Mr. LaPierre, the school committee approved Dr. Paist's recommendation to promote David Andersen to that position effective July 1, 2001. Mr. Andersen had served Pathfinder for the previous 12 years, first as a special education teacher, and most recently as the Area Coordinator of Occupational & Special Education. In addition, the committee approved the re-institution of the position of Vocational Coordinator, to which Dr. Paist named Carpentry Instructor Jeffrey Upton.

Superintendent Gerald L. Paist continued to serve on the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators and on the Board of Directors of the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce. He continued to serve as Chairman of the Professional and Legal Services Committee for the Mass. Association of School Superintendents. In May of last year, he was honored by that body as one of the 3 recipients of the President's Award for his service to the organization and the membership.

Committee Chairman Michael Cavanaugh continued to serve as Chairman of the Vocational-Technical Division of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, and by virtue of that position serves on the Association's Board of Directors. He completed his term on the Board of the Regional Education & Business Alliance, of which Pathfinder is an original member.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

The School Committee initially adopted a FY02 gross budget of $8,842,701. This figure was subsequently modified to $8,712,269. Of this amount, $7,710,477 was for net school spending purposes. The District expected to receive $2,264,790 in Chapter 70 funds, $367,525 in regional school transportation reimbursement, $346,794 in school building assistance, leaving a remainder of $5,733,160 to be raised through assessments to the member communities, school choice monies, and non-resident tuition income.

Once again, the Committee adopted a budget in excess of the minimum contribution required from each of the member communities. These additional costs resulted primarily from the MVIP Program as well as from the second year of the District's Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. The School Committee was pleased to receive the support of each of the seven member towns during their respective annual town meetings.

PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS 2001-2002

TOWN	MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION	SHARE MVIP PROGRAM	ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION	SHARE OF CAP (1 YR)	TRANSPORTATION	CAPITAL ASSESSMENT	TOTAL
BELCHERTOWN	744118	17550	118175	32854	11698	24702	949097
GRANBY	377892	35100	45282	12589	4482	9643	484988
HARDWICK	77260	8775	19880	5527	1968	5035	118445
MONSON	502636	52649	89459	24871	8856	15192	693663
N. BRAINTREE	39995	8774	8836	2456	875	2062	62998
PALMER	567844	26325	121489	33775	12026	22811	784270
WARE	501331	96524	103818	28863	10277	16911	757724
TOTAL	2811076	245697	506939	140935	50182	96356	3851185

CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The School Committee justly proud of the staff and students and of the contributions they have made to the economic health of our District. The Commission recognizes that in this era of accountability and high expectations, many changes need to be made. The increased emphasis on academic skills needs to be maintained without diminishing the quality of students' technical studies. In light of this challenge, the School Committee is enormously proud of the Edgerly Foundation recognition last year.

The Committee looks forward to the continuing implementation of educational reform with the hope and expectation that the eventual reauthorization of the school finance formula will offer more advantages to regional school districts. In addition, the Committee anticipates that the new formula will provide more than the minimum per-pupil aid to districts such as Pathfinder. It is committed to providing the best possible educational opportunities for workforce development within the District, and to that end, respectfully invites the continued support of town officials, parents, and citizens in all of our seven communities.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Cavanaugh, Palmer, Chairman
Judith C. Dudek, Belchertown
Michael A. Roncolato, Belchertown
Elizabeth Desrochers, Granby
Harry T. Comerford, Hardwick
Barbara L. Beaulieu, Monson
Geraldine A. Reavey, New Braintree
David Droz, Palmer
M. Barbara Ray, Ware
Gerald L. Paist, Superintendent- Director

PLANNING BOARD

Residential development in 2001 was consistent with recent previous years. The Inspection Services report has a breakdown of building permits issued for the year. A change from previous years is that non-residential development increased. The Planning Board reviewed applications and plans that included an industrial expansion, several commercial expansions, new commercial projects, and a cell phone tower.

The Planning Board continues to encourage the community to get more involved in guiding the direction of the town's growth. These planning and outreach efforts are described below after the summary of development.

Development Activity

Subdivision Approval Not Required (ANR): Any time someone is to change a property line, even if the same person owns the two adjoining lots, the plan must be endorsed by the Planning Board and recorded at the Hampshire Registry of Deeds. If the change does not create a new building lot, or, with some exceptions, if it does create building lots but each new lot has the required frontage on an existing public street, subdivision approval is not required and the Planning Board must simply endorse that the plan meets the ANR requirements.

Forty-six new building lots were created along existing town roads through ANR plans. There were numerous other ANR plans submitted that simply moved property lines without creating new building lots. The new building lots were created as listed:

Aldrich Street	16
Amherst Road	1
Bardwell Street	4
Cold Spring Road	1
Franklin Street	1
George Hannum Road	1
Green Avenue	1
Howard Street	1
Jabish Street	1
Lexington Drive	4
Ludlow Road	2
North Liberty Street	1
Rockrimmon Road	3
Sabin Street	2
Shea Avenue	3
South Washington Street	3
Springfield Road	1

Preliminary Subdivision Plans: the Planning Board reviewed six preliminary subdivision plans during 2001. A preliminary subdivision plan is an opportunity for a developer and the Planning Board to negotiate a project in its early stages before the binding obligations of a definitive subdivision submittal. Preliminary plans are not required for residential subdivisions, and are required for all others. A preliminary plan in many ways protects a developer by prompting a "freeze" on certain regulatory changes that may take effect within a certain amount of time. As long as the preliminary plan is followed by the submittal of a definitive plan within seven months, changes such as zoning or subdivision regulations do not apply to that project. This is true even if the Planning Board does not approve a preliminary plan. Of the six definitive plans reviewed in 2001, one was commercial and the rest were plans for residential subdivisions. One of those was not approved.

Definitive Subdivision Plans: Four definitive subdivision plans were reviewed during 2001, and two were approved. These are Belchertown Business Center and River's Edge, Phase 2. Belchertown Business Center has one dead-end street, named Center Street, off Main Street with two commercially zoned lots. One lot is large enough to be divided. River's Edge, Phase 2, is an extension of Clover Hill Road off River Street. This subdivision has seven house lots. One definitive subdivision plan was not approved, and an applicant withdrew another.

The Planning Board monitored eight other subdivisions under construction during 2001. Performance guarantee exchanges, plan modifications and extensions for subdivisions were processed. A certificate of completion wa signed by the Planning Board for the Plaza Ridg subdivision, Plaza Avenue, off Old Bay Road.

Other Development Reviews:
The Planning Board reviewed several site plans and special permit applications. Site plans included an expansion of a manufacturing plant, a self-storage business, expansion of an importing business, two retail expansions, and others. At the year's end, there is a pending site plan approval application for a shopping center. The Planning Board granted a special permit for a cellular communications tower off Franklin Street.

Planning Projects

The Belchertown Community Plan effort continued in 2001. The Community Plan Steering Committee held a public forum in the winter to follow up on the goals that had been identified from the previous public forum and the survey. The town's consultant, LandUse, Inc. of Hadley, presented a report on the public participation phase of the plan at the annual town meeting. A forum for town officials was held in October. Over forty town officials from most boards and departments joined to learn about how the plan will affect them and to add their experience and insight to it. Following the public participation phase, the steering committee recruited several residents to work as "scribes" to help write the plan. This group is volunteering many of their hours to read through the information and opinions received to draft the plan. This will be presented to the public in 2002.

The Planning Board undertook a major revision of the subdivision regulations, which had not been substantially revised since 1989. The board spent several months doing research and revising drafts through a series of public hearings. The board also published several articles in the Sentinel and actively solicited suggestions from engineers, developers, other town boards and offices, the public, and Town Counsel. The final revision was adopted in March 2001.

The Planning Board initiated research on zoning for residential development exclusive to people aged fifty-five and older. This resulted in an addition of this type of project to the zoning bylaw at the annual town meeting.

The Town Planner is overseeing development of the town's Geographic Information System (GIS). In 2001, the Department of Public Works had the GIS software installed and data converted for use in the system. The Department of Public Works had an extensive amount of information collected for their part of the GIS. Assessing, Conservation, Planning, and Health each had software and data updates. This project will continue several years until each municipal department is integrated into the system.

Continuous activities of the Planning Office and Planning Board include reviewing and processing plans, monitoring projects, voting on development and land division applications, and making recommendations to the Zoning Board of Appeals and other boards. The Planning Board reviews requests for changes to zones and the zoning by-law and makes zoning recommendations to town meeting. The Planning Board reviews common drive developments, subdivisions, "Approval Not Required" plans, non-residential site plans, earth removal plans, and wireless communication facility plans. The Planning Board also made recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on the town's right of first refusal to purchase land held under Chapter 61 restrictions. The board also advises and assists other town offices, developers, property owners, and the public.

The Town Planner manages the Planning Office and assists the Planning Board in development review, procedural interpretation, and research. The Town Planner also coordinates planning and reviews with other town offices, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, developers, residents, and businesses.

Board Membership
The Planning Board membership is as follows:

- Elizabeth Chase, Vice Chair, (term expires: 2002);
- James Barry, Chair, and Single Signature for "Subdivision Approval Not Required" plans (term expires: 2003);
- James Natle, Clerk (term expires: 2004);
- Daniel Beaudette, Commissioner to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (term expires: 2005);
- Joe Gilman (term expires: 2006);
- George Synan, Alternate Voting Member for Special Permits; (appointed annually)
- Susan Bradway, Associate Member. (appointed annually)
- Carolann Koehler, Associate Member. (appointed annually)

Staff
Susan Gay is the Planning Board Secretary. Douglas Albertson is the Town Planner and Alternate Commissioner to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

The Board thanks Mike Beresky, whose term ended in 2001, for his many years of service. He served on the Planning Board for over ten years and contributed much with his experience, knowledge of wildlife, and wry wit.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Planning Board,

Douglas Albertson
Town Planner

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department remained very active in year 2001, maintaining a low crime rate and providing more services to our citizens.

During 2001 the department operated out of our new police facility for its first full year. New technology has enhanced our efforts, and the functionality of our new police station has been a great benefit to police officers and citizens alike. Several community groups have taken advantage of our community room and it is used frequently. The department uses this room for training and roll call. In the spring and fall the Citizen Police Academy attends classes in this area. Local resident Les Campbell and the Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists have adorned the walls of the community room with an exhibit of photographic works.

Our communication center received 9329 calls in addition to 2100 emergency 9-1-1 calls. In July our communications system took a direct lightning hit destroying our communications consoles. As we enter the new year it appears this problem has been resolved and new equipment has begun to be installed.

Police officers made 371 arrests for a total of 505 incidents. Officers issued a total of 1808 motor vehicle violations. This includes 867civil violations, 633 warnings, 125 arrests and 182 criminal violations.

Community services and working with local school administration, teachers, and students has become a department priority. At the beginning of the current school year a full time School Resource Officer began working within the middle school and high school assisting staff and students. This program has been funded by the Department of Justice. D.A.R.E. curriculum is being presented at the fifth grade level and again at the high school. An updated program will be taught in the near future. The Belchertown Police Department and the Belchertown Schools wholeheartedly endorse this program and remain committed to teach our children to resist drugs.

Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) is taught by certified officers with the cooperation of the Belchertown Recreation Department. Women and kids for whom the program was designed have received it enthusiastically.

The Citizen Police Academy graduated two very well attended programs. Police Officers teach local volunteer students various aspects of police work via a ten-week program. Local participation has been very active and a class for high school students is being planned for the future.

Belchertown continues to be a great place to live and work. The cooperative effort of all town departments, government and especially our citizens helps the police department to function in a way that best address public safety.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Knight
Chief of Police

PARKS, BEACH AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Seven new lifeguards joined the staff at the Chestnut Hill Community School Pool this past spring after becoming certified at our annually held Lifeguard and CPR/FPR training course. We bid a tearful farewell to many familiar faces that went off to broaden their horizons this fall at various colleges. American Red Cross Learn to Swim Classes, Scuba, morning and evening water exercise classes were all offered throughout the summer. The purchase of our own modern manikins last year helped us in increasing the number of courses we were able to hold in American First Aid and C.P.R. We continue to offer adult lap swimming 5 nights a week, in the wee hours of the morning on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, along with morning hours on Saturdays and Sundays. Family swim time is offered to the public Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Many families took advantage of private rental time at the pool with most every Saturday and Sunday booked during the winter and fall months. Private schools and local boys and girls scout troops continued to use the facility this past year. Water Safety Instructor Courses were offered in the spring and fall of 2001.

We continued to improve the overall appearance of the Town Beach last spring. With staff picking up fallen branches, removing dead trees, adding more sand and repairing the bathroom roof. Many of our young visitors enjoyed the new swing set that was installed at the end of last season.

Heavy and late season snowfall of 2001 kept our fields wet later in the spring sport season putting a "damper" in the start of our baseball and softball season but even with the late start we were able to form 45 teams. We enhanced our softball program by adding a travel softball team for the 7th/8th grade level. Many young residents from age 5 to 18 enrolled in our soccer and basketball sport programs this past year. We held weeklong clinics this past summer for basketball, baseball, softball, tennis and soccer. Summer programs for ages 3 to 15 increased enrollment in such programs as art classes, baton, Take-A-Hike, RAD for Kids and Adults, T'ai Chi, wrestling, biking, Canoeing, golfing, yoga and jr. bikers. We added Cardio Funk and a Bike Rodeo & Public Safety Day to our calendar of summer events. Our ski and snowboarding program moved to Ski Butternut this year with an increase to 90 participants enjoying the winter wonderland. We survived our 9th annual basketball tournament with just a few delays from Mother Nature. The 11th annual baseball tournament was a great success. We enjoyed a beautiful day outdoors in August for our 11th annual golf tournament and we held our second annual Lobster Feast in September.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the many area businesses that generously donate to our many causes time after time and welcome new sponsors to our family. We greatly appreciate the tremendous amount of time that our coaches, assistant coaches and volunteers unselfishly give to the youth of this community. We acknowledge the assistance we receive from the Maintenance Department, Town Hall offices and the Belchertown School Department, whose commitment to the residents of the town make it possible for this department to be able to offer a variety of programming.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Opalenik, Director

Recreation Committee
Robert Chartier, Chairman
Kathleen Scruton, Vice Chairman
William Eldridge
Bruce Smith
Becki Smith
Nancy Kwiatkowski
Tom Kubacki
Karen Schiffer
Chris Daley

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Since the Department of Public Works was established eight years ago, the Department has been in a constant state of change. During the early years, the Department was organizing – encompassing the various responsibilities that now define our existence. This list includes road maintenance, cemetery operations, snow and ice removal, wastewater treatment, buildings maintenance, grounds maintenance, solid waste disposal and recycling, and the operations of tree warden. The past few years were riddled with staffing and management changes, the loss of some of our most experienced and seasoned employees hindered our operations. However, 2001 was the first full year that we operated with the replacements to all of the positions in place. Consequently, the Department of Public Works had, what I would consider one of our most productive and successful years. This success can be attributed to our management team, and the dedicated employees that form the Department.

Below, I have outlined some of our activities in 2001. Any attempt to list all of our accomplishments entirely would be impossible. Therefore, I will offer only a brief summary.

Highway Division

The winter of 2000-2001 was perhaps the worst on record, not for total snowfall but for the frequency of the storms. From the first day of winter, well beyond the first day of spring, this division battled seemingly endless snowstorms, two blizzards and countless ice storms. During this period, the employees of this division, almost exclusively worked on these activities and equipment maintenance. In addition, over $175,000 was spent towards the hiring of private contractors, equipment repairs, salt and sand. Following the snow season, we quickly picked up our road maintenance activities. This began with the usual spring outbreak of potholes, and shifted to road resurfacing.

Roads resurfaced with bituminous concrete include the following:

Gulf Road	2828'
So. Gulf Road	3600'
So. Washington St.	8976'
Old Bay Road	4488'
Bay Path Road	1584'
Lamson Avenue	1564'
Federal Street	5800'
South Street	1100'
So. Liberty St.	3200'
Stadler Street	1500'

Roads resurfaced with chip seal included the following:

So. Gulf Road	3600'
Old Bay Road	4480'
Bay Path Road	1548'
Lampson Avenue	1564'
Blue Meadow Rd.	6000'

This division's activity also included routine maintenance which includes: roadside mowing, brush removal, catch basin cleaning, line painting, sign installation, drainage repairs, and guardrail installation.

Drainage repairs and enhancements were conducted at the following locations:

So. Gulf Road	40'
Bay Path Road	60'
George Hannum Rd.	10'
Federal Street	120'
So. Liberty Street	180'
Gulf Road	60'
Old Bay Road	100'
Brenda Lane	210'
No. Liberty St.	60'
Mill Valley Rd.	60'
West Street	100'
Daniel Square	40'
South Street	240'

Guardrails were installed at the following locations:

Federal Street	175'
South Street	650'
Gulf Road	175'
Jackson Street	50'
So. Gulf Road	265'
Mill Valley Rd.	175'

If all of this isn't enough, the Highway Division also worked on or completed several projects, including:

- Repairs to the fuel dispensing system at the Highway Garage.
- Data collection for the Town's Geographic Information System.
- Improvements to the Main, Maple, and Jabish Street intersection.
- Construction of a new parking lot at the former Franklin School.
- Completion of the upper terrace at the Constantino Recreation Area.
- Completion of the Stadler Street water line.

Buildings Maintenance

The Buildings Maintenance Division is one of the faster expanding divisions within the Department of Public Works. This division is responsible for the maintenance of the Town's buildings, excluding those under the jurisdiction of the School Department. In each year's report there is usually mention of additional buildings; this year's report will be no different. Topping this list is the reuse of the Freedom Center at the former State School. In addition, both the Franklin School and Meadow School Buildings have been turned over to the Town by the School Department. In total, this division is now maintaining an additional 25,000 square feet of building space.

The year's of expansion has stretched our resources beyond reasonable limits. However, this division still had a remarkable year; including routine maintenance, repairs, cleaning and an impressive list of projects including the following:

- Installation of a new entry door at the Recreation Department Building.
- Reglazing and painting of the Recreation Department Building windows.
- Repairs to the sprinkler systems at the Freedom Center and Recreation Department Buildings.
- Removal of the underground fuel storage tanks at the Belchertown Day School, EMS Building and Lawrence Memorial Hall.
- Installation of a new heating system at the EMS Building.
- Installation of an emergency power transfer switch at the EMS Building.
- Interior renovations at the Finnerty House.
- Recoating and sealing of the highway garage roof.
- Repairs to the Freedom Center for occupancy including the installation of a hot water heater.
- Installation of a new roof on the bathhouse at the town beach.
- Installation of a new roof on the storage building at the public work's yard.
- Cleaning and sealing of the community playground equipment.
- Construction of storage rooms at the Town Hall.
- Completion of the heating systems at the Freedom Center and the Recreation Department buildings.
- Expansion of the dog pound.
- Installation of new heating controls at the Town Hall.
- Repairs to the basement heating system at the library.

Grounds Maintenance

The Grounds Maintenance Division is another one of our faster growing divisions.

This division's employees are currently maintaining over 200 acres of grounds, including the schools, cemeteries, and areas around our municipal buildings. This division is also responsible for preparing the Town's playing fields for recreational use, the removal of excess brush and vegetation, shrub pruning, the removal of snow from our sidewalks and ground's equipment maintenance.

Unfortunately, due to the routine nature of the services provided by this division, their report is usually shorter than the other divisions. However, I can assure you that no matter how routine, their services are always at the forefront of our operations.

This division completed and assisted with several projects in 2001 including:

- The completion of the Lake Vale Cemetery expansion
- Construction of flower gardens at the Senior Center
- The completion of the soccer field at the Constantino Recreation Area

Wastewater Treatment Plant

This year's success also extends to the division that is responsible for the operation and maintenance of our Wastewater Treatment Plant. During 2001, over 110,200,000 gallons of wastewater was treated at this facility. The activities associated with this include: laboratory analysis, sample collection, record keeping, chemical addition, process control, equipment maintenance, and reporting. Normally, these activities would be considered routine. However, during this past year the employees performed these functions while enduring the challenges that resulted from the construction of the new treatment plant. This alone is considered a major accomplishment, but this division also has an impressive list of projects that include the following:

- The construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant is nearing completion with only punch list items remaining.
- The construction of the Stadler Street, Springfield Road, and Pine Valley Plantation sewers are substantially complete with only punch list items remaining.
- Repairs and replacements were completed to the Howard Street, East Walnut Street, and Pelham Road sewers.
- The funding for the Tri-Lakes Sewers was secured from the State, and the design process has begun.

Cemetery Division

2001 was another busy year for the Cemetery Division, with 34 burials, 8 of which being cremations. The most notable event was the resignation of Paul Cook. Prior to the development of the Department of Public Works, Paul was one of the Town's Cemetery Commissioners. He continued to perform his duties as a part-time employee for another eight years. He deserves our appreciation for his service and dedication; he will be missed. Other activities for 2001 included: lot sales and development, grounds maintenance, and head stone repair. In addition, our remaining part-time commissioner, Dave Hodgen, was busy laying out the lots at the newly expanded Lake Vale Cemetery. We are expecting the sale of these lots to begin in the spring of 2002.

Tree Division

Once again, this year's greatest activity within tree and vegetation control was removals. For various reasons, record numbers of Eastern White Ash, Sugar Maples, and Hemlock trees continue to die off and become safety hazards, consequently, their removal becomes necessary.

In 2001, some additional funding allowed us to expand our brush removal and roadside mowing activities. Unfortunately, we are only covering approximately 30% of the town's roads yearly.

Transfer Station

It is with regret that I must report our Transfer Station fees increased in 2001. Facility permits increased from $40.00 to $50.00 and a new rate schedule for miscellaneous items was instituted. However, it is with great pleasure that we can report that the new fees allowed us to continue to accommodate a wide variety of disposal and recycling needs. Items accepted at the Transfer Station include: solid waste, furniture, white goods, mercury containing devices, cathode ray tubes, tires, motor oil, brush and yard waste. We also accept a wide variety of recyclables such as: plastics #1-#7, paper, tin, glass, and cardboard.

Below, outlined are the material quantities received at the Transfer Station:

- 414 tons of solid waste
- 511 tons of paper/cardboard
- 120 tons of glass/metal
- 13 tons of plastic
- 624 assorted tires
- 2,030 gallons of waste oil

This division's report is not complete without mention of Richard Nelson's retirement. Richard Nelson worked for the Town for 32 years. Most of that time was spent as an attendant at the Transfer Station. Anyone who has ever used this facility will certainly remember his dedication to the Town, and he will be missed.

Concluding Statement

Although 2001 ended without a federal budget surplus, a deficit in the State budget, and a realization that the Town is facing difficult financial times, the expectations for 2002 remain optimistic. This is primarily due to the planning of several projects that took place during 2001. We have a list of bridges that are at various stages of planning with the Massachusetts Highway Department, the first phase of the Springfield Road reconstruction will provide enhancements from North Washington Street to the new high school, and the construction of the Tri-Lakes Sewer will begin this spring.

Once Again, I would like to call attention to the employees within the Department of Public Works. Their dedicated service is what makes the accomplishments and activities outlined in this report possible. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Williams
Director of Public Works

TEEN CENTER

The Teen Center is in its third year of operation and continues with much success. This success not only comes from the support of the administration but from the community and it's many volunteers. Without their assistance and encouragement the Center would not continue to be a model center in Western Massachusetts. Changes around the Center have added a new spark and ownership to our newest members. We have repainted walls, decorated new areas and the walls in a small cramped space were taken down and have provided the Center with a wonderful new game room.

With the assistance of the Friends of the Teen Center we held our third annual senior class picnic, our first incredibly successful junior class all night alternative after prom party, a luau night, a free spaghetti supper to the Senior Citizens of Belchertown, a successful third annual holiday bazaar, field trips, a holiday dinner, a violence prevention workshop, post game pizza parties, a volunteer appreciation dinner, and our annual craft fairs on the common. After school art and crafts and creative writing were held weekly with the financial assistance of the After School Program and at no cost to the participants. The Safe Sitter course is also offered to our budding babysitters.

Overall, the Teen Center focuses on providing enriching activities to teens that might otherwise not have an opportunity to express themselves creatively and to learn constructive problem solving and social skills within a positive growth-oriented environment. More than two hundred teen residents from seventh to twelfth grade visit the Center each week to work on school and center projects, learn the game of pool, foosball, or ping-pong, and more importantly learn the necessary social and personal skills that will give them a firm advantage throughout their lives. We look forward to next year and our new adventures.

Submitted by,
Susan Shea-Bressette
Teen Center Coordinator

BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Report

The 2001 school year could be characterized as placing a priority on continued improved student achievement, facility and program planning for the future, increasing current revenue sources, and identifying new revenue sources. I have included several major highlights in my report for your information.

Regarding student achievement based on statewide standards, Belchertown Public Schools continued to perform well in 2001. Based on the MCAS 2001 test results, Belchertown students performed above the state average in 90% (i.e., in nine out of ten) of the content areas tested and reported by the state. As a school district, approximately 93% of all Belchertown students passed the Reading/English/Language Arts MCAS tests and approximately 80% of all Belchertown Students passed the Mathematics MCAS tests. Of special note, Belchertown High School ranked seventh in English/Language Arts MCAS test scores and ranked eighth in Mathematics MCAS test scores when compared to all public high schools in western Massachusetts. In addition, the school district continued to utilize its new software to track both group and individual student MCAS scores and to provide specific data to identify school district strengths and weaknesses; including to provide individual student reports for the state required Individual Student Success Plans. Both the purchase price of the software and stipends for selected faculty to utilize the software was funded through a grant. Special attention should be paid to the Primary Schools' and Elementary School's individual school reports, which highlight the new Everyday Mathematics Program that was purchased to help increase primary and elementary students achievement in mathematics.

Concerning facility and program planning for the future, Belchertown School District's Central Office administration and staff and Belchertown High School's administration and staff spent a significant amount of time advising the BHS Building Committee and architects regarding design, construction and purchasing requirements related to the new Belchertown High School. In particular, a tremendous number of hours were spent on facility design, to insure that the building would support the type of instruction required for future generations of students, and on developing bidding lists for furniture, equipment, and technology purchases. As the direct result of a very effective BHS Building Committee, the 1,000 student, 176,825 square foot facility remained on time and within budget during 2001. BHS Building Committee members are: Patrick Daly (Chair), Douglas Albertson, Eric Bernardin, Edward Ciosek, Daniel Fitzpatrick, Gerry Grasso, Simon James, Robert Lachance, Elizabeth Radwilowicz, Frank Wenzel, and Richard White. Non-voting/advisory members include: Richard Pazasis (Superintendent), Michael Krzystofik (School Business Manager), and Christine Parzych (BHS Principal).

A second important facility and program planning task was initiated during 2001; to begin planning for the eventual realignment of grade levels to school buildings following the reassignment of grades 9-12 to the new Belchertown High School. A planning committee, made up of the following individuals, began a lengthy planning process, to be completed sometime later in 2002, to develop specific plans to implement the realignment: Michael Krzystofik, Richard McInerny, Robert Lachance, Maureen Jagodowski, Phyllis DuComb, Joanne Gosselin, Sandra Bremer, Gary Millett, Gary McCauley, Christine Parzych, Elizabeth Radwilowicz, Caroline Lequin, Claudia Allain, Sally Shattuck, Linda Smith, Joyce O'Leary, Amanda Kavanagh, Cindy Fuller, Charlotte Noyes Miller, Susan Pelletier, and Richard Pazasis. The realignment, approved by the Belchertown School Committee and on file with the Massachusetts Department of Education is:

Current Facilities/Current Grade Level Status	**Future Facilities/New Grade Level Assignments**
New Construction (New High School)	New High School - 9 through 12 (Belchertown High School)
Current High School - 9 through 12 (Belchertown High School)	New Middle School - 7 through 8 (Jabish Brook Middle School)

Current Facilities/Current Grade Level Status	Future Facilities/New Grade Level Assignments
Current Middle School – 6 through 8 (Chestnut Hill Community School)	New Intermed. School – 4 through 6 (Chestnut Hill Community School)
Current Elementary School – 3 through 5 (Swift River Elementary School)	Remain as Elemen. School – 1 through 3 (Swift River Elem. School)
Current Primary School – K through 2 (Cold Spring Primary School)	New Early Childhood Center – PreK and K (Cold Spring Early Childhood Center
Current Tadgell Primary School – 1 through 2 (Tadgell Primary School)	Expansion: Second Early Childhood Center, Expanded Programs, Alternative Programs, Additional Office Space, etc. (Tadgell Hall School)
Berkshire Primary School – 1 through 2	To be returned to the Town (as soon as possible)

A third important facility and program-planning task was the completion and approval of a Belchertown School District Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. The Belchertown School Committee, on January 9, 2001, officially adopted a five-year plan to update six buildings and to turn back to the town three outdated buildings. The six buildings in the plan to be updated are: The Central Office, formerly Center School (81 years old); Cold Spring School (46 years old); Belchertown High School (38 years old); Tadgell School (36 years old); Chestnut Hill Community School (14 years old); and Swift River Elementary School (4 years old). School buildings in the plan scheduled to be returned to the town are: Meadow School (70 years old); Berkshire School (70 years old); and Franklin School (50 years old). The estimated costs identified in the capital improvement plan to update the six school buildings, spread out over five years, totals $2,415,800, broken down by building as follows: Belchertown High School $1,110,200; Chestnut Hill Community School $652,500; Cold Spring School $481,800; Central Office $81,000; Tadgell School $72,800; Swift River Elementary School $17,500.

A fourth important facility and program planning task was the creation of a full-day kindergarten program option, funded by a $45,000 planning grant and an additional $54,000 implementation grant (i.e., to fund personnel salaries, purchase furniture, equipment and supplies for kindergarten classrooms, and to support professional development for all kindergarten teachers). This new program option was widely subscribed to by parents. However, since only three full-day kindergarten classrooms received funding, a significant number of parents could not place their children in the full-day kindergarten option.

Finally, the school district made an extraordinary effort to increase current revenue sources and to identify new revenue sources. An increase emphasis in grant writing and becoming a School Choice School District were two significant examples of the school district's increased effort to add additional revenue to fund school district programs and personnel. Grant submissions in 2001 reached an all-time high of $880,613. The school district's previous grant submission history was: $437,182 in 1997-1998; $536,323 in 1998-1999; $687,475 in 1999-2000; and $606,682 in 2000-2001. As a School Choice school district for the first time, Belchertown attracted 25 students from other school districts, which could net School Choice funding for Belchertown in excess of $175,000.

Before ending, I wish to pay a special tribute to Patricia Baker and Shaun Bresnahan, two colleagues of the Belchertown School District who passed away during 2001. May their contributions always be in our memory!

As you continue to read this report, you will be informed about many of the specific happenings and accomplishments in other departments and at all the school levels within the Belchertown School District. Thank you for your continued support of the Belchertown Public Schools.

School Business Manager's Report

During 2001, the citizens of Belchertown continued to provide strong financial support for their schools by once again voting for a school budget in excess of the minimum contribution required by the Department of Education. The school district's effective procedures for monitoring the spending of the budget for 2001, allowed the financial resources to be used as requested in the approved budget.

The custodial staff continued to maintain the schools at a high standard. The standard was achieved through the day to day cleaning activities as well as by the Director of Buildings and Grounds establishing a list of general building repairs and preventative maintenance measures and implementing the successful completion of the list. The Director of Buildings and Grounds continued to be an integral part of the new high school building project to prepare for the transition of the opening of the school in 2002. A Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan was developed by the Belchertown Public Schools to be responsive to the Town auditor's recommendations of the development and funding of long-range capital plans and to be accountable to the Massachusetts Department of Education regarding the requirement of having and funding long-range capital and extraordinary maintenance plans.

The Belchertown School Lunch Program maintained participation above the state average through the efforts of the hardworking food service staff. An administrative review was conducted of the Food Service Department by the Department of Education in accordance with standards set by Federal and State regulations. The review indicated that the Food Service Department was in compliance. Sanitation regulations were upgraded by adopting the Federal Food Code. To continue to meet the needs of the students, the Cold Spring School kitchen was reopened for the full day kindergarten pilot program.

The Belchertown Public Schools continued to provide bus transportation for all students. First Student transported all regular education students to and from the schools and Van Pool provided the transportation for special education students. Bus transportation continued to be provided for students participating in after school activities and high school athletics.

Pupil Personnel Services Report

2001 was a year of continued growth and development for the Pupil Personnel Department. As of December 1, 2001, there were 346 special needs students, 98 Title 1 students, 11 students receiving English as a Second Language (ESL) services and 131 students receiving services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act in the Belchertown Public School System. The vast majority of these students were serviced through programs provided within the school district. These in-district programs include co-teaching models at the primary, elementary, and intermediate levels. In addition to the co-teaching programs, the school district employed learning centers at the elementary level and resource rooms at the middle school level. Additional programs included a Learning Skills Program at Belchertown High School, a Language Learning Program at both Chestnut Hill Community School and Belchertown High School, a School-to-Work Partnership Program at Belchertown High School, two Early Childhood Programs at Swift River Elementary School and an Early Childhood Language Program, also located at Swift River Elementary School. These programs, plus our therapeutic programs, serviced special needs students between the ages of 3 - 22 years of age inclusive. Therapeutic programs include Speech/Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Adaptive Physical Education. With the assistance from the school district's Integration Facilitator, several students who otherwise would be placed in out-of-district placements were educated in our schools with support services.

Title 1, ESL and Section 504 services were also offered to students who qualified under federal and state guidelines for additional support services. These services were provided in a variety of settings utilizing specialized materials and instruction.

In conclusion, it is important to note that the high quality Special Education, Title 1, ESL, and Section 504 services provided to the students of Belchertown are made possible through the dedication and expertise of the special education and regular education staffs.

Primary School's Report

The Primary Level includes the Berkshire, Tadgell and Cold Spring Schools. Over 575 students in kindergarten, first, and second grade experienced an integrated curriculum focusing on high academic standards and innovative instructional practices during the 2001 school year. A safe, positive and caring atmosphere provided by qualified early childhood educators, addressed the varying and specific needs of our younger students. Many goals outlined in the Primary Schools' Improvement Plan were achieved and successfully accomplished. The most noteworthy being the implementation of three Pilot Full Day Kindergarten classrooms, which began in September of 2001 after careful and lengthy research, was conducted by the Pilot Full Day Curriculum Committee and the Pilot Full Day Readiness Committee. Two grants were written by Superintendent Pazasis and some members of the committee to study, research and implement this progressive program. The second year grant supports the NAEYC (National Association for the

Education of Young Children) accreditation preparation and process.

We were pleased to adopt and implement a new standards based K-5 math series entitled, Everyday Mathematics, after an intense and comprehensive review of the four top math curriculum series being used throughout the country. It not only meets the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework standards but also incorporates the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) standards as well. The series is organized so that each grade level builds upon and expands conceptual mathematical understanding while offering differentiated levels of instruction. Staff members were given an orientation introductory workshop prior to the start of school with continuing professional development sessions throughout the year to ensure that mathematics is meaningful to children and rooted in real world problems and applications.

Faculty and staff also received professional development training in Second Step, a nationally acclaimed school violence prevention program where students learn to problem solve, manage anger in a positive way, control impulses and develop empathy. This social skills program is part of our health and guidance curriculum and enables students to reduce conflict while encouraging cooperation. Parent informational evenings provided a curriculum overview and helpful strategies for implementation at home.

Parents and guardians continued to play vital roles in the home-school connection partnership. An extensive volunteer program and active PTO board complemented the highly successful Parent Involvement Project (PIP) now in its fourth year. This grant funded program allowed primary level families to participate in after school programs, presentations, and activities such as: Bingo For Books, Card Club Night, an Evening with Jerry Palotta, Flight & Kite Nights, and a scavenger hunt at the Springfield Science Museum.

The Primary School Council members remained very instrumental in overseeing and hosting such popular community events. Sarah Workman; Co-Chair and Parent Representative, Laura Griffin; Parent Representative, Kathleen Bernardin; Parent Representative, Susan Kenney; Teacher Representative, Marnie Henneman; Teacher Representative, James Lafley; Community Representative, and Sandra Bremer; Principal and Co-Chair spent many hours revising, up-dating, and assessing the current School Improvement Plan which included both long and short term goals.

Extensive planning for the move to Swift River Elementary transpired at both District Wide and Site Based Transition Moving Team committee meetings held throughout the year. Detailed maps, re-organizational charts, proposed schedules and staffing requirements were outlined and reviewed so that we can continue to meet the needs of all our students at the primary level. As always, we strived for excellence in all of our educational endeavors throughout 2001 and gratefully realized many noteworthy achievements. We have renewed our concerted commitment to maintain our high standards and recent accomplishments while aspiring to thrive and flourish throughout the new year.

Swift River Elementary School

The Swift River School Community continues to be a caring, respectful, dynamic, and safe environment for faculty, staff, and students. We were saddened this fall by the passing of Pat Baker, who helped initiate the district's pre-school program and served as a pre-school teacher for many years. She was a very special person and a beloved member of our staff. We also mourned the passing of Shaun Bresnahan, who was honored as "Massachusetts Teacher of the Year" several years ago. Shaun was a talented social studies colleague at Belchertown High School.

Much of our time and energy continued to be focused on implementing curriculum and instructional practices dictated by the Educational Reform Act of 1993. Our top priority was to adopt a new math program, which would improve our MCAS math scores. After a substantive selection process, our staff chose to adopt the Everyday Math Program because it provides a design to develop the skills required by the Massachusetts Curricular Frameworks and outlines strategies to meet the needs of all types of students. A comprehensive long-term staff development program was initiated as this program creates a significant challenge for both staff and students. The initial implementation of Everyday Math has been an exciting adventure for all of us.

In the spring of 2000, our Superintendent of Schools, Richard Pazasis, initiated a process to develop a district-wide Gifted and Talented Program. A committee was formed called the Program for Accelerated Students (P.A.S.) Task Force. Composed of the Swift River Elementary Principal as chair, and a group of teachers, guidance staff, parents, and community members, this group contracted with Caroline Cohen as the Gifted and Talented consultant. Caroline has assisted with several successful programs nationwide. The Task Force worked for the next year developing a program name, (The Belchertown Challenge Program), mission and goals, program components, and a five-year implementation plan.

In June of 2001, under the Community Oriented Services (COPS) school based partnership grant, ten students from Swift River Elementary and Chestnut Hill Community Schools attended the Peacemaker's Conference at Hampshire College. They became the nucleus of a pilot conflict resolution program called Peer Mediation, where students learn communication, problem solving, and negotiation skills in order to help other students resolve interpersonal conflicts. This year eighteen (18) students and adults are being trained with money from the grant so that a Peer Mediation Program can begin in the spring of 2002, at Swift River Elementary School.

The Swift River Elementary Council reviewed and updated our school improvement plan, which was approved by the School Committee in December. This year's council is comprised of Lisa Bombard, Parent Representative and Co-Chair; Dianne Magee, Community Representative; Darlene Pelkey, Teacher Representative; Rose Luippold, Parent Representative; Nancy Kwiatkowski, Teacher Representative; and Gary Millett, Chair and Principal.

Chestnut Hill Community School

The students, faculty, and staff of Chestnut Hill Community School experienced a year filled with challenges, opportunities, and accomplishments. As a school community serving 600 adolescents there always seems to be a concert, field trip, play, science fair, dance, guest speaker, project, report, essay, test, art contest, and a host of other student centered activities taking place. We are proud of our students and the high level of commitment they bring to school every day. Their success is due to many factors; one of the major ones is the continued support we receive from parents and the community.

One of the projects was the naming of the future middle school (i.e., the current high school), which turned out to be Jabish Brook Middle School. With the completion of a new high school, the 7th & 8th grade students of Chestnut Hill Community School will be moving into the old high school building sometime in the future. In anticipation of this move a new name was needed that would celebrate the history of Belchertown and recognize our educational mission to serve students in the middle grades. A "Name That School" campaign was started and the citizens of Belchertown responded with over sixty suggestions. A subcommittee of 6th grade students Katie O'Donnell & Lauren Dibella; faculty members Nora Austin & Lisa Aiken; community representatives Susan Lattanzi & Keith Poulin; school committee representative Sharon Barnett; and Principal Gary McCauley reviewed the names and recommended six to the school committee. They were Carriage Towne Middle School, Clear Brook Middle School, Jabish Brook Middle School, Metacomet Middle School, Prescott Valley Middle School, and White Oak Middle School. The Belchertown School Committee discussed the selections at length before choosing Jabish Brook Middle School to be the new name. The Dell'Olio family, Franco, Carla, and Evan submitted the final choice.

A major emphasis by our teachers was the ongoing evaluation of the middle school curricula, the review of best teaching strategies, and preparing middle school students for the MCAS tests. Changes in the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks received continuous review and integration to ensure high standards for students. Middle school teachers participated in a six-session training session on Differentiated Teaching Strategies for use in the classroom. Also, middle school teachers reviewed the latest student MCAS test results to develop Individual Student Success Plans for students with low test scores.

The CHCS Science Fair, which is a perennial high point for middle school students at all three grade levels, was a great success. A new variation for our grade eight students was the opportunity to participate in the Invention Convention. This program encouraged students to stretch their thinking and to develop a new innovative idea, product, or process.

Grade six students participated in a new program sponsored by the Quaboag Valley School To Career Partnership, Holyoke Community College, and Home Depot. The If I had A Hammer project gave students a glimpse into the world of engineering and construction. After participating in classroom lessons and learning the basic terminology, each classroom traveled to Holyoke Community College to learn about basic construction tools and materials. As a culminating activity, each classroom had the opportunity to construct a prefabricated shed.

The CHCS after school program continued to thrive and create opportunities for students to extend their learning day or participate in creative activities. The homework club, drama group, creative writing, kickboxing, roller blade skating, skateboarding, and chess club were just a few of the student-centered programs. We hope that federal and state funds continue to be available to support these activities.

The Language Learning Class was actively involved in the Youth Against Hunger Program. The students in cooperation with the Belchertown Senior Center assisted in the monthly distribution of food from the Western Massachusetts Food Bank. They also made and sold candy to provide money for the purchase of food to help needy families.

The Chestnut Hill Community School Council continued to bring a high level of community commitment and support for our school program. This year the Council revised and updated our school improvement plan, which was approved by the Belchertown School Committee. The council representatives are Susan Lattanzi, Susan MacDonnell, Keith Poulin, Florine Neggers, Diane Brown and Jean Serafino.

The year 2001 was a good one for our students, faculty, and staff. We look forward to the coming year confident in our ability to meet the needs of our students

Belchertown High School

"Building For Our Future" was the theme of our orientation program for members of the Class of 2005 and their parents. Belchertown High School welcomed these very special guests on January 30th as we showcased all that we have to offer at Belchertown High School. The evening began with a performance by our award winning Oriole Marching Band under the direction of Mr. Michael Bauer followed by introductory comments from Mr. Richard A. Pazasis, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Patrick Daly, Chairman of the Building Committee, and Mr. Scot Woodin, Associate with Drummey, Rosane, and Anderson and the architect of our new state-of-the-art building at 140 Springfield Road. The excitement in the Robert B. Byard Gymnasium was clearly detected as Mr. Woodin and Mr. Daly described the 750-seat auditorium, the gymnasium and the indoor walking track, the band room, the technology labs, the library, the classrooms, and the 400 computers that will fill our new high school. Students, parents, and teachers are looking forward to the opening of this beautiful building in the Fall of 2002. A project that began over eight years ago is finally coming to fruition. A special thank you to the High School Building Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Patrick Daly, who have committed so much time and effort to every detail of this building. We appreciate all that you have done to ensure that our new high school will be the very best!

During the school year, students, faculty, parents, and the community continued to work together to make a difference at Belchertown High School. The Belchertown High School Council met monthly to implement the School Improvement Plan and help advise with decisions that impacted the high school. Special thanks to faculty representatives Lori Vaz and Janis Wheeler, Community Representative Ann Roberts, Parent Representatives Nancy Karmelek, Larry Pringle, and Nancy Kwiatkowski, Student Representatives Alison Karmelek and Jennifer Fay, PAC Liaison Caroline Lequin, Parent Liaisons Jackie Jurkowski and Alan Weiss, and School Committee Representative Sharon Barnett for being such a dedicated council.

Throughout the year our students continued to shine in the areas of academics, athletics, and extra-curricular activities. There was not a day that went by that one would not read about or hear about the accomplishments of Belchertown High School students. We are very fortunate at BHS to have students who know the importance of their education, appreciate the opportunities that they have, and who always represent the community in such an outstanding way.

The Class of 2001 graduated on June 2nd in the Robert B. Byard Gymnasium. For the first time in many years, graduation was held inside due to rain. 120 graduates and their family and friends gathered in the gymnasium for a beautiful ceremony. Mr. Stephen Vigneux, English teacher, class advisor, and coach delivered the keynote address. Devin O'Neill, President of the Class of 2001, Andrew Borkowski, Valedictorian and Andrew O'Shea, Salutatorian also delivered speeches. Even though the ceremony took place inside, it was still a very wonderful event where the graduates expressed their thanks to their teachers, parents, and friends. Members of the Class of 2001 are now studying at MIT, Cornell, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, George Washington University, Boston University, serving in the armed forces, and working. These students return to BHS in the fall for the Homecoming Dance and always show their appreciation to the faculty and staff at Belchertown High School for preparing them as they enter the world of higher education and the workforce.

The beginning of the 2001-2002 school year was a very difficult one for the Belchertown High School Community. September 11th is a day that will remain in our hearts forever. Not only did we experience the sadness of the events that took place in New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania, we also lost a very special friend and teacher in that of Mr. Shaun Bresnahan. Mr. Bresnahan touched the lives of many students during his thirty-one years at BHS - an outstanding teacher of World History, U.S. History, Anthropology, and World Religions, a dedicated advisor to the Humanities Club, Operation First Step, Rainforest Action Committee, the School Newspaper, and a chaperone who guided many of his students through the rainforests of South America and many other parts of the world - Mr. Bresnahan definitely made a difference at Belchertown High School. We miss you SPB!

As we prepare to move into our new high school at 140 Springfield Road, we continue to celebrate the many wonderful times we have had at 62 North Washington Street. In October, we had a Spirit Assembly in which we celebrated our current high school. Mr. Donald Geer, the first principal at 62 North Washington

Street and Mr. Walter Papp, a member of the Building Committee were in attendance to reminisce about the high school. Ms. Madeline Fitzgerald, Mr. Gerald Nathanson, and Mrs. Kubacki were recognized for their 117 years of combined teaching service at BHS. A wonderful time was had by all who attended. The celebration culminated with an all school photo on the soccer field behind the high school. We are extremely excited about moving into our new high school; however, we look fondly upon the many memories we have shared at our current high school - 62 North Washington Street will always be a special place!

The New Belchertown High School and Swift River Elementary School

In closing, Belchertown High School endeavors to provide each of our students with an equal opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to be an informed, literate, and productive member in a democratic society. Hopefully, our students will aspire to the highest standards and will demand the best from themselves. As part of contemporary society, we must develop in our students the ability to adapt to change, and also instill a sense of honesty, dignity, and responsibility. Our intent is to graduate intelligent citizens who will be personally and socially responsible. The atmosphere of our school should be characterized by civility and mutual respect among the members of the school community and all those who come to school each day. Education in Belchertown should involve a partnership between the school community and the larger community of parents and all other citizens who hopefully share and support the efforts of the school. A sincere thank you to Superintendent Richard Pazasis, Mr. White, Mrs. Barnett, Mr. Mitnick, Mrs. Shaffer-Bacon, and Mrs. Bracey, the faculty, staff, students, and the community for the support they have shown. Belchertown High School is an outstanding place and "Together We Do Make a Difference!"

SKATE PARK COMMITTEE

The Belchertown Community Skate Park Committee met once a month, public given written notice, throughout the year 2001. Immediately following these meetings, the "Friends of the Belchertown Community Skate Park Committee" would meet to discuss fundraising possibilities, etc. Fundraising events that took place during the year held by the "Friends" included:

- McDonald's Eat Out Night
- Dance held at Club 21
- Bottle Drive
- 2nd Dance at Club 21
- Cookie Sale
- Bake Sale held at a High School Play
- Sport Frames to be sold

Accomplishments that took place during 2001:

- Working as a Committee to form/finalize Committee By-Laws
- Working as a Committee to form/finalize the design of the Skate Park
- Working as a Committee to form Rules and Regulations for the Skate Park
- Working as a Committee to discuss the running, opening and closing, and all other aspects in the running of the Skate Park.
- Official opening November 2001.

Belchertown Community Skate Park - Balance Report

Balance as of 01-01-2001:					**$12,723.60**
Date			Donation	Expense	
04-03-2001	Deposit	Wal-Mart	1,000.00		13,723.60
07-03-2001	Deposit	Donations, Dance, Bottles	2,504.78		16,228.38
07-03-2001	Deposit	McDonald's	8,500.00		24,728.38
08-10-2001	Deposit	RE-Max, Donation	5,010.00		29,738.38
09-06-2001	Deposit	McCarthy's	400.00		30,138.38
10-01-2001	Deposit	Fair	1,195.00		31,333.38
12-10-2001	Deposit	Cookies	407.00		31,740.38
12-10-2001	Deposit	Cookies	2,754.00		34,494.38
06-29-2001	Expense	Fencing		(9,220.00)	25,274.38
07-05-2001	Expense	Palmer Paving		(7,725.00)	17,549.38
08-21-2001	Expense	Wood		(1,053.55)	16,495.83
09-07-2001	Expense	Fair Expense		(105.00)	16,390.83
09-15-2001	Expense	Lowe's		(773.00)	15,617.83
09-20-2001	Expense	Lowe's		(268.00)	15,349.83
09-25-2001	Expense	Skate Lite		(4,292.00)	11,057.83
10-31-2001	Expense	Theory		(4,000.00)	7,057.83
10-31-2001	Expense	Sheet Metal		(1,283.41)	5,774.42
11-04-2001	Expense	Steel Parts		(447.36)	4,327.06
11-04-2001	Expense	Steel Parts		(597.58)	4,729.48
Balance					**$4,729.48**

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Unfortunately the first news of this report is sad and unexpectedly tragic. This past year we lost a dedicated member of our community and committee. Greg Bowler, chair of the Telecommunications Committee, passed away this year. Greg was a hard working and meticulous committee chair who kept up to date on the technological changes of the industry. We'll miss him, and the organization and direction he gave to this committee.

Changes in the membership include Frank Lomanno as chair and Kim Kearney as vice chair and secretary. We also welcome a new committee member, Andy Katafiasz. Andy works for Westfield State College and is very familiar and comfortable with telecommunications and computer technology.

Charter Communications completed its fiber optic cable and line upgrade throughout Town. This provides the new digital services, Charter Digital Cable and Charter Pipeline. Digital Cable includes CD quality music, pay-per-view channels, interactive programming guide and new digital channels with more special interest choices. Charter Pipeline is a high-speed, always-on Internet access that comes through the cable wire. Since most of Belchertown does not have DSL Internet service, this presents an attractive alternative to the slower dial-up modem access. Other services, Video On Demand and Wink are not yet available to Belchertown/Hadley residents. Charter does have a valuable web site (http://charter.com), which allows you to see channel line up and services supported town by town.

With the fiber supplied by Charter, that connects the town buildings and schools, Belchertown now has the opportunity and capability for high bandwidth projects such as videoconferencing, distance learning, intra-town communications etc.

Our committee participated in the March 22, 2001 'Town Talk' broadcast on Channel 5 with Peg Louraine. The show was devoted to the description of the new cable system and the digital services provided by Charter Communications. Rich Carnall, from Charter, and myself explained how the system works and fielded questions from the residents calling into the show. Discussions center on the changes in programming and the new Internet access by cable. We also joined, with the rest of the town's committees, in the All Boards Forum, held on October 11, 2001. This led to our committee's written submission to the Community Plan Document requested by Community Plan Committee, in which we outlined our committee's role in the upcoming years.

On November 30, 2001 Charter completed its reorganizing of legal ownership and agreed to be bound by the terms and conditions of the franchise Agreement with the town. Charter also added more programs to its channel lineup, the latest being National Geographic and Outdoor Life, as well as, another public access channel.

Complaints to this committee concerned the confusion in the change over to digital operations and the addition of the Internet service. Other comments were rate increases due to additional programs brought into the channel line-up. Again we need to remind subscribers that neither this committee nor the Town has any input to channel selection or payment rates. The cable rates are regulated by the State, and channel selection is based on FCC regulations and well as the popularity of any particular program channel.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank D. Lomanno, Chairman
Art Dunbar
Dan Fitzpatrick
Jim Kearney
Andy Katafiasz

VETERANS' GRAVES OFFICER

The fall of 2001 saw the completion of re-identifying all veterans' markers in South Cemetery. This brings the total to seven completed, with Mt. Hope soon to be started. The above inventory has been computerized and stored on disk.

All veterans' markers and several Town memorials were all flagged this pas Memorial Day. A new flag was provided for the Town Hall flagpole.

* * *

A special thanks to American Legion Post 239, Belchertown, for their assistance in placing flags on Memorial Day.

Respectfully submitted,
Vincent Viglione, Veterans' Graves Officer
Kathleen Wood, Assistant
John Milner, Assistant

VETERANS' SERVICE DEPARTMENT

The Veterans' Services Department is very pleased that it can continue to serve and assist many veterans and their dependents. Continuously throughout the year with utmost privacy, the Veterans and their dependents are assisted to resolve their problems or needs.

* * *

At the Senior Center, two meetings were held and the attendance was excellent. Many questions were asked and the majority of the questions were from widows of Veterans. There are many ways the Veterans' Service Department can help these widows.

In September of 2001, we initiated the Veterans' Agent Work Study Allowance Program for pupils attending approved Veterans' Agent schools. These students, local and town, are working in Veterans' Agent related services here in our office.

Our efforts are to "reach-out" to the Veterans' and their dependents in our area. They all deserve this.

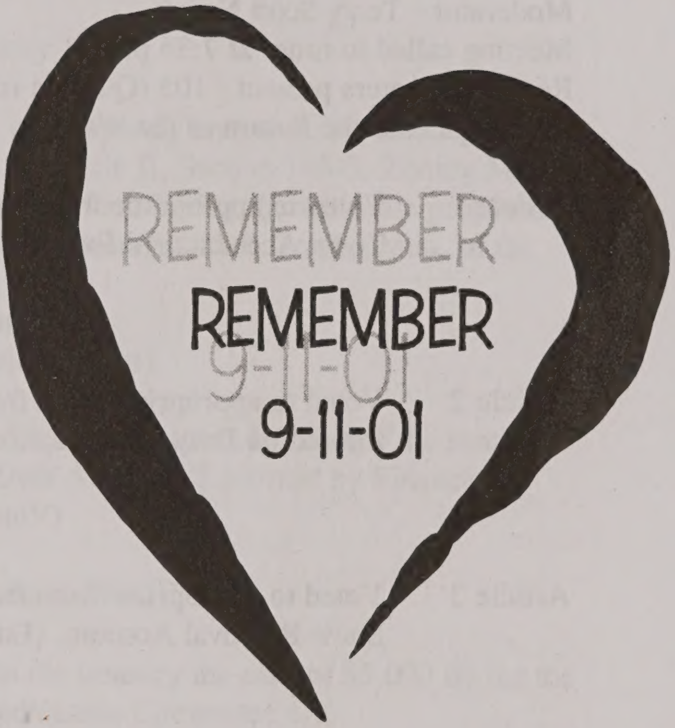
Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Messier, Director
Veterans' Services Department

WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The Committee members held a meeting in June for the purpose of appointing two new members, Edward Knight and Susan Gay. A discussion was held once again regarding the condition of the various Town memorials to the veterans of all the national conflicts. It was decided to do a complete inventory and assessment of those monuments and memorials for the records. The Committee incurred no appreciable expenses in the year 2001. A meeting will be held in the spring of 2002 for the purpose of reorganizing and discussing these findings.

War Memorial Monument, Town Common



Town citizens are reminded once again that these memorials are owned by all of the citizenry and should be respected as such. Minor vandalism has occurred and should be reported to the proper Town authorities.

Respectfully submitted,

Leo Beauchemin, Secretary/Treasurer
War Memorial Committee

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
MASSACHUSETTS

Action taken at the Special Town Meeting held February 12, 2001 at Chestnut Hill Community School Auditorium FY01

Moderator - Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:36 p.m.
Registered voters present - 105 (Quorum required - 75)
The Clerk read the Return of the Warrant.

Article 1 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $6,500.00 to the Town Accountant's Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 2 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $12,000.00 to the Injured on Duty Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 3 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $15,000.00 to the Snow Removal Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 4 On the article - To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or borrow for conservation purposes and passive recreation a certain property known as the Shea Farm...........(see entire text in Warrant),

it was voted to take no action.

(Vote - Unanimous No Action)

Article 5 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $1,600.00 to the EMS Department's Equipment Account.(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 6 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $4,000.00 to the EMS Department's Expense Account.(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 7 Correction – The article incorrectly indicates this treatment to be for Lake Arcadia. The proposed treatment is for **Lake Metacomet.**

Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $10,000.00 to match a grant obtained by the Tri-Lakes Association for the purpose of chemically treating Lake Metacomet in order to control the invasive non-native species of weeds. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Majority Yes)

Article 8 Voted to amend the Zoning By-Law, as previously amended, by deleting in its entirety the Zoning Map, Chapter 145, Article II, Section 145-5, Zoning Map, of the Code of the Town of Belchertown, and substituting therefore the proposed new zoning map, Chapter 145, Article II, Section 145-5, Zoning Map, of the Code of the Town of Belchertown.

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 9 Voted to appropriate from the Sewer Department Interest Account the sum of $7,290.00 to the Sewer Department Debt Account.(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 10 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $5,000.00 for the next phase of GIS work.(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 11 On the article - To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money from the Board of Health Wage Account to the Board of Health Expense Account, or take any other action relative thereto,

it was voted to take no action.

(Vote - Unanimous No Action)

Article 12 Voted to appropriate the sum of $73,275.00 from the Surplus Lottery Money to the Stabilization Fund. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 13 Voted to authorize the Board of Trustees of the Clapp Memorial Library to:

- Proceed with a feasibility study to examine the options for expanding and renovating its current library building, and/or building a new facility;

- To accept and authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend any State grants, as outlined in the Grant and after any necessary public hearings, which may be available for this planning and design project;

- Appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $36,000.00 to support the planning and design of the Clapp Memorial Library expansion project (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 14 Voted to amend the Personnel By-Law, as previously amended by:

- Increasing the Dog Officer per action amount from $12.00 to $15.00 per action.
- Adding the following positions:
  - ➢ Assistant Teen Center Coordinator – Grade 5
  - ➢ Social Daycare Program Assistant – Grade 3
  - ➢ Head of Automated Library Services and Interlibrary Loan Services – Grade 8

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 15 Voted to amend the Personnel By-Law, as previously amended, by inserting the following language to Section 4. Classification of Positions and Compensation:

There shall be established a Classification Appeals Committee comprised of five members consisting of the Town Administrator, the Town Accountant, one member of the Board of Selectmen to be selected by that Board, and two members of the Personnel Board to be selected by that Board. The Classification Appeals Committee shall be appointed annually by the Board of Selectmen.

All appeals must be submitted in writing on the form approved by the Board of Selectmen and in accordance with the policy, procedures and deadlines established by the Board of Selectmen and currently in effect.

The Committee shall review all properly submitted appeals. The Committee may conduct interviews and hold such hearings as the Committee deems necessary to render a decision on the facts and merits of the appeal. The Committee may recommend an adjustment of classification not to exceed two grade levels.

The Committee will issue to the Board of Selectmen a report of its findings and recommendations. Implementation of the Committee's findings shall be retroactive to the date the appeal was filed.

The decision of the Classification Appeals Committee shall be final and not subject to further appeal.

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 16 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $15,700.00 to the following accounts:

- Computing Department Expense Account: $12,200.00
- Computing Department Wage Account: $3,500.00

(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 17 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury to the Computing Department Capital Equipment Account for:

- Town Hall Server: $15,000.00

(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 18 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $85,000.00 for construction of a fiber optic network within 18 town-owned buildings.
(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 19 On the article - To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to grant a tax abatement upon the request of a new business or substantially improved business facility as follows:

new business structures coming into Belchertown building a facility assessed at $250,000;

or

a remodeled business structure which facility is increased in assessment by more than $250,000;

be authorized by Town Meeting and granted by the Board of Assessors an abatement, phasing in the new taxes by zero the first year, twenty-five percent the second year, fifty percent the third year, seventy-five percent the fourth year and full assessment the fifth year, or take any other action relative thereto,

it was voted to take no action.

(Vote - Unanimous No Action)

Article 20 On the article - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds or by borrowing a sum of money for the purposes of this article and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to lend or grant such sum to the Town's Economic Development and Industrial Corporation (EDIC) for the acquisition of the real property, being a portion of the former Belchertown State School, shown as Parcel D and Parcel E on a plan titled "A Plan of Land in Belchertown, MA," prepared for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Capital Planning and Operations (DCPO) by E.B. Holmberg, dated May 2, 1996, and further known as Assessors Map 250, Parcels 22 and 39, and filed with the Town Clerk, or at the option of the Board of Selectmen, to expend such sum for the acquisition of said Parcels D and E directly by the Town for economic development, community development and/or open space projects, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire said Parcels D and E, or any portion thereof or interest therein, by gift, purchase or eminent domain, on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may determine and, if said parcels D and E are to be acquired by the EDIC and if eminent domain is to be used, to authorize the EDIC to acquire said Parcels D and E by eminent domain, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept federal, state or private gifts or grants for such purpose, or take any other action relative thereto,

it was voted to take no action.

(Vote - Unanimous No Action)

Article 21 Voted to accept MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 54, added by Chapter 159, Section 114 of the Acts of 2000, to allow Belchertown to establish a minimum value of $1,500 for personal property accounts to be taxed.

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 22 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $200,000.00 to the School Department's #9000 Special Education Accounts. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 23 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $140,499.00 to the Schools #9000 Account for the reimbursement of Medicaid payments.
(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 24 Voted to accept Nathanial Way as shown on an "As Built" plan entitled "Backhome Estates" and provided by Lewis & Cook, dated November 2, 1990 and recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Northampton, Book 186, Page 143, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire any necessary easements in connection therewith.

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 25 I move the Town appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $183,400.00 to the Department of Public Works' Capital Equipment Account for the following projects:

• Underground Storage Tank Removal and Replacement:	$154,000.00
• DPW Loader Tires:	$8,000.00
• Freedom Center Sprinklers and Alarm System:	$12,000.00
• EMS Electric Transfer Switch:	$7,000.00
• Recreation Department Replacement Doors:	$2,400.00

(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 26 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $8,000.00 to finish grade and seed the upper field at Constantino Park. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 27 Voted to amend the Code of Belchertown, as previously amended, by removing Articles 1 and 2 from Chapter 208, Cemeteries, and replacing them in their entirety with the following language:

Cemetery Rules & Regulations – Belchertown, MA

1. Sale of lots shall in each case be consummated by the payment therefore and by the delivery of a deed, and no lot shall be considered sold until said delivery of payment.

2. The Funeral Director or the Deed Holder shall produce the Deed(s), for said lot, to the Department of Public Works Director or his agent, for examination, before any burial can take place.

3. Lots will be established and the Director of Public Works or his agent will place the corner bounds.

4. Lots shall not be used for any purpose other than as a burial place for the dead. No more than two (2) eight-grave lots shall be sold to anyone, unless determined by the Director of Public Works to be essential.

5. If any trees or shrubs in said lot shall become in any way detrimental to the adjacent lots, avenues or paths, or dangerous or inconvenient, it shall be the duty of the Director of Public Works or his agent to enter into said lot and remove said trees or shrubs, or other obstruction.

6. If any monument or effigy, or any inscription be placed in or upon a said lot that is considered offensive or improper, the Director of Public Works or his agent has the right to enter upon said lot and remove said offensive or improper object or objects.

7. All monuments, headstones, or markers to be placed in the Cemetery must be approved by the Director of Public Works or authorized agent, and must have a suitable foundation.

8. All foundations shall be put in by, or under the supervision of, the Director of Public Works or his agent, and no monument shall be installed without a foundation.

9. All headstones or markers will be flush with the grass, unless exempted by the Director of Public Works.

10. The Director of Public Works shall establish, within each Cemetery, a separate area for upright headstones, and/or markers, said area shall have a

four (4) lot minimum purchase, and only one upright headstone per area shall be permitted.

11. Only one flower pot is permitted per grave. The Director of Public Works or his agent, Shall have the sole authority to enter upon any grave and remove said flower pots when they restrict maintenance activities.

12. Lots purchased shall not be resold for a price greater than the original purchase price.

13. Curbing, projecting corner posts, fences, hedges, shrubs, and flowering plants on or about any lot or lots are prohibited, except as approved by the Director of Public Works or his agent. Absolutely no planting will be allowed.

14. The Board of Selectmen shall establish the purchase price of cemetery lots.

15. These regulations, upon adoption by Town Meeting, supersede any preexisting regulations in effect, and are intended to provide guidance for the use, operation, and maintenance of all the cemeteries under the jurisdiction of the Town of Belchertown.

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 28 Voted to expand the membership of the Parks and Recreation Committee from five members to seven members.

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 29 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $15,400.00 to the Fire Department for a Thermal Imaging Camera. (Endorsed by the Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 30 Voted to appropriate from Chapter 127 of the Acts of 1999 the sum of $142,624.20 for improvement of local roads. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 31 Voted to appropriate from Chapter 53(B) the sum of $149,740.88 and Chapter 150 the sum of $149,740.88 for improvement of local roads. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 32 Voted to accept MGL Chapter 41, Section 108P, which compensates a municipal Collector or Treasurer who has taken the proper courses and been certified by the Massachusetts Collectors and Treasurers Association. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 33 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $12,830.00 to the following accounts:

• Treasurer/Collector Expense Account:	$5,415.00
• Town Clerk Expense Account:	$2,000.00
• Town Clerk Wages Account:	$5,415.00

(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 34 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $75,000.00 to the Stabilization Fund. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Meeting dissolved at 9:10 p.m.

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Clerk

Action taken at the Special Town Meeting held May 14, 2001 at Belchertown High School gymnasium FY01

Moderator: Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:09 p.m.
Registered voters present – 82 (Quorum required – 75)
The Clerk read the Return of the Warrant.

Article 1 Voted to appropriate from the Conservation Commission Wage Account the sum of $1,000.00 for hiring a consultant to assist with the GIS mapping to update the Open Space Plan. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 2 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $115,000.00 to the Health Insurance – Town Share Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 3 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $6,000.00 to the Medicare – Town Share Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 4 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $80,000.00 to the Snow and Ice Control Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 5 Voted to appropriate from the Unemployment Compensation Account the sum of $3,000.00 to the Recreation Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 6 Voted to appropriate from the General Insurance Account the sum of $9,000.00 to the Interest Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 7 Voted to appropriate from the Dog Officer Wage Account the sum of $1,000.00 to the Dog Officer Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 8 Voted to appropriate from the Maturing Debt Account the sum of $31,800.00 to the following accounts:

• Maintenance – Expense:	$ 2,500.00
• Lawrence Memorial Hall:	$ 9,500.00
• Finnerty House:	$ 800.00
• Road Machinery:	$ 7,500.00
• Senior Center Building:	$10,000.00
• Freedom Center:	$ 1,500.00

And to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $6,000.00 to the Landfill Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 9 Voted to appropriate from the Lottery Surplus the sum of $16,876.00 to the School Department #4340 Account for additional costs for fuel tank removal and replacement. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 10 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $11,875.00 to the School Department #4340 Account for air duct cleaning at Chestnut Hill Community School. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 11 Voted to appropriate from the General Insurance Account the sum of $3,428.00 to the School Department #4340 Account for water issues resulting from *E. coli* bacteria. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 12 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $6,750.00 to the School Department #4000 Account for additional costs for snowplowing. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 13 Voted to appropriate from the Maturing Debt Account the sum of $7,941.00 to the School Department #9000 Account for special education costs. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 14 Voted to appropriate from the Council on Aging Wage Account the sum of $10,000.00 to the Council on Aging Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 15 Voted to appropriate from the Lottery Surplus the sum of $80,760.00 to retire the loan for the Topping property. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote - Majority Yes)

Article 16 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift or eminent domain, for conservation purposes and passive recreation, the property known as the Reed Property which consists of two acres, more or less, of land under water and 96 acres, more or less, of land above water, together with all flowage and other rights and easements and as shown on the Town of Belchertown Assessors Map Number 207, being Parcels 10.00, 13.00, and 14.00 and further to authorize the Conservation Commission to acquire by gift or purchase pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8C, as it may hereafter be amended, and other Massachusetts Statutes related to Conservation, or the Board of Selectmen to take said land by eminent domain, said land to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission and the Conservation Commission be authorized to file on behalf of the Town of Belchertown any and all applications deemed necessary for grants and/or reimbursement from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts deemed necessary under the Self-Help Act (Chapter 132A, Section 11) and/or any others in any way connected with the scope of this Article, and the Town of Belchertown and the Conservation Commission be authorized to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Belchertown to effect said purchase; and to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectmen to borrow $315,000.00 under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 to fund the purchase after a grant has been acquired.

(Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

2/3's required (Vote – 2/3's Majority Yes) Hand count not necessary in accordance with town by-law

(Prior to the final vote on the article, after considerable discussion, a motion was passed successfully to end debate.)

Meeting dissolved at 7:45 p.m.

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
MASSACHUSETTS

Action taken at the Annual Town Meeting held May 14, 2001 and continued on May 15, 2001 at Belchertown High School gymnasium FY02

Moderator: Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:55 p.m. (at conclusion of Special Town Meeting)
Registered voters present – 275 (Quorum required – 75)
The Clerk read the Return of the Warrant.
4H members led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, and the National Anthem was played by Dan Diffendale on the Baritone Horn.
Selectman Aponte presented the Volunteer of the Year Award to the Town Fair Committee, which organizes the yearly event.
Selectman Michael Reardon presented the Employee of the Year Award to Lorraine M. Zatryka, a receptionist at the Senior Center and a 15-year town employee.
Selectman Linda Barron presented a Special Award to Gloria J. Conkey, a recently retired town employee of 25 years.
Selectman Steven Rose presented the Citizen of the Year Award to Gretchen E. Bock, who organized a massive reunion held last year for 25 years' worth of Belchertown High School graduates. Gretchen has worked for the Town for 18 ½ years.

Article 1 Nominated and elected Linda E. Barron and Suzanne M. Bay as Almoners of the Whiting Street and Mrs. Susan M.D. Bridgman funds, each for one year; and Sylvia C. Conkey as Trustee of the Calvin Bridgman Fund for three years.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 2 Voted to accept the reports of the officers of the Town, including the oral report given by James Barry of the Planning Board regarding the Master Plan, with the exception of the Finance Committee.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 3 Voted to authorize the Assessors and the Board of Health members to appoint themselves to work in their various departments for the ensuing fiscal year, at hourly rates not exceeding the following: (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

Assessors	$9.29
Board of Health Members	$6.36

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 4 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $100.00 to be used by the Assessors for legal counsel in resolving court tax cases. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 5 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $30,000.00 to the Reserve Fund for use by the Finance Committee. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 6 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Improvement Program for use on approved town ways.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 7 Voted to appropriate from the Sale of Cemetery Lots Account the sum of $1,500.00 to the Cemetery Lot Development Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 8 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for Massachusetts Small Cities Program or other Federal or State monies and to expend any monies received as set forth in the application following a public hearing.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 9 Voted to fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided for by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended; to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds in the treasury for departmental and incidental expenses of the Town for the ensuing fiscal year; and that the various major categories of the budget as contained in the Finance Committee's report be considered separately and acted upon; and further that these sums of money granted and appropriated for the several specific purposes therein designated, be expended only for those purposes as specifically designated and under the direction of the respective officers, boards and committees of the Town. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,160,008.00, and appropriate from the Wetlands Hearing Fees Account the sum of $2,000.00 to the Conservation Commission Salary Account, for a total appropriation of $1,162,008.00 for General Government, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,896,105.00 for Public Safety, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $15,688,192.00 and appropriate the sum of $200,000.00 from the Stabilization Fund for a total appropriation of $15,888,192.00 for the Town School Department with each item and amount recommended as shown in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $949,097.00 for the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $798,450.00 for the DPW-Highways, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $36,611.00, appropriate from Landfill receipts the sum of $141,000.00, and appropriate from Landfill Enterprise Free Cash in the treasury the sum of $45,000.00, for a total appropriation of $222,611.00 to the Landfill Enterprise Fund, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $436,783.00, and appropriate from Sewer receipts the sum of $460,000.00, for a total appropriation of $896,783.00 to the Sewer Enterprise Fund, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $413,335.00 to the Human Services departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $478,275.00, and appropriate from recreation off-set receipts the sum of $45,000.00 for a total appropriation of $523,275.00 for Culture and Recreation departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $407,154.00 for DPW Buildings and Grounds departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,411,870.00 for Pensions and Insurance Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $49,248.00 to the Unclassified Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $2,042,557.00 to the Interest and Debt Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $62,636.00 for Hampshire Council of Governments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 10 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $22,000.00 to the Workers' Compensation Trust Fund. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 11 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of a Senior Center Transportation program, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the transportation program and shall be under the control of the Director of the Senior Center; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 12 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of firefighters' protective clothing and equipment purchase and maintenance, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the open air burning permit fees, and shall be under the control of the Fire Chief; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 13 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of providing a concession at the Town Beach, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the Town Beach Concession, and shall be under the control of the Recreation Director; such expenditures not to exceed $5,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 14 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of Council on Aging programs, which fund shall be credited with receipts from these programs and shall be under the control of the Council on Aging; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 15 Voted to discontinue Fletcher Avenue also known as Fletcher Street, situated northerly of the following delineated boundary line (being the southerly boundary line of Lot 124CJ and the northerly boundary line of land now or formerly of Blanche A. Squires) shown on a plan of land entitled "Sheffield Estates Definitive Plan of Lots in Belchertown, Mass., surveyed for Sunrise Properties, Inc." said plan being recorded with Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 175, Page 140, said plan being incorporated herein by reference, said boundary line being more particularly bounded and described on said plan as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin situated in the westerly sideline of said Fletcher Avenue also known as Fletcher Street, at the southwesterly corner of Lot 124CJ said iron pin also being the southeasterly corner of Lot 124EA, and thence running S 84° 10' 58" E., along the southerly boundary of said Lot 124CJ to a point in the southerly boundary line of Lot 124CJ in the easterly sideline of said Fletcher Avenue. Hereby discontinuing all of Fletcher Avenue also known as Fletcher Street and situated northerly of any point on said boundary line. (Endorsed by Planning Board 4-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 16 Voted to appropriate the sum of $7,710,000 to pay for the cost of extending public sanitary sewer service to the Tri-Lakes Area, so-called, of Town, being more formally described as Phases II, III and IV of the Town's Sewer System Facilities Plan prepared in 1997, and for the re-payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 29C and Chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town to accept any gifts and to submit any and all applications deemed necessary for grants and/or reimbursements from any State and/or Federal programs and to receive and accept such grants for this purpose, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to assess 100% of the project cost upon those who benefit from the project, said assessment to be made by the frontage method. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 17 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $10,000.00 to the Community Plan. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Majority Yes)

(Prior to the final vote on the article, after considerable discussion, a motion was passed successfully to move the question.)

Article 18 On the article – To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 127, Section 59 of the Acts of 1999 which adds Section 5K to Chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws which enables the Board of Selectmen to establish in fiscal year 2002, a work-off program for citizens over 60 years old, who may volunteer their services for a reduction in their tax bill, not to exceed $500.00 per fiscal year based on a rate per hour of service that cannot exceed the Commonwealth's minimum wage, or take any other action relative thereto,
(Finance Committee voted 3-0-0 to take no action)

it was voted to take no action.

(Vote – Majority No Action)

Article 19 On the motion - to accept the Citizen Petition as just read,

it failed by a majority no vote
(Hand Vote: Yes-73, No-101)

(Prior to the final vote on the article, after considerable discussion, a motion was passed successfully to end debate)

(This article if passed would have requested the Trustees of the Clapp Memorial Library to vote to install one filter on one computer that is connected to the Internet.)

Article 20 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $20,000.00 to the Conservation Fund for the purpose of acquiring property and property interests for open space, conservation, recreation and related purposes. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 21 Voted to appropriate the sum of $20,000.00 from the Austin Farm Development Rights Account to the Conservation Fund for the purpose of acquiring property and property interests for open space, conservation, recreation and related purposes including the acquisition costs associated therewith. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Majority Yes)

Article 22 On the motion – to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, or otherwise and to accept the deed of a fee simple interest or less in the parcel described below, currently owned by Peck Realty, LLP and assessed and taxed under MGL Chapter 61 upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine to be appropriate, for general municipal purposes, including conveyance by the Board of Selectmen, said parcel of land as described as follows:

> The parcel of land with the buildings and improvement thereon located at Aldrich Street, Belchertown, Hampshire County, Massachusetts and designated as Map 248, Lot 1 on the Town Assessor's Maps and further described in a deed recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 2875, Page 173 and containing sixty (60) acres more or less.

and further vote to appropriate the sum of $565,000.00 for this purpose and any expenses related thereto and to authorize the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen in order to meet such appropriation to borrow said amount under Chapter 44, Section 7 of the Massachusetts General Laws as amended or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes therefor and to authorize the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town to accept any gifts and to submit any and all applications deemed necessary for grants and/or reimbursements from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the United States under the Self-Help Act and/or any other State and/or Federal programs including those in aid of conservation land acquisition and to receive and accept such grants or reimbursement for this purpose and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey all or a portion of the above property upon such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate and to authorize the Board of Selectmen and Town Officers to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments and to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to effect the interest of the foregoing, (Endorsed by Finance Committee as Yes-2, No-1, Abstention-1)

2/3's required – Failed by hand count of: Yes-64, No-63

Article 23 On the motion – to amend the Zoning By-Law, as previously amended, in the manner printed in Article 23 of this Annual Town Meeting Warrant (see entire text in Warrant), (Planning Board voted 4-0 against change),

2/3's required – Failed by a majority no vote. (Count:No-49, Yes-40

(This article if passed would have changed Assrs.Map 238, Lot 17, known as 61 Federal St., from AG-B to B2)

At this point in the meeting (11:35 p.m.), it was voted to adjourn, to be reconvened at the same location on Tues. May 15th, 2001 at 7:30 p.m.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Tuesday, May 15, 2001 Adjourned Session
Moderator – Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:50 p.m.
Registered voters present – 76 (Quorum required – 75)

Article 24 Voted to amend the Belchertown Zoning By-Law, as previously amended, as follows:

ADD TO: §145-2 DEFINITIONS:

FIFTY-FIVE-AND-OVER HOUSING: A residential complex restricted to residents mainly aged 55 years and older consistent with the definition of "elderly" as currently promulgated by the U.S. Department of Housing and

Urban Development (HUD) and with the Federal Housing for Older Persons Act of 1995. Specific criteria:

- One person aged 55 or older must reside in each of at least 80% of the complex's occupied units.
- The complex must have published and must follow policies and procedures that demonstrate an intent to be housing for persons 55 and older.
- The units may have condominium ownership or they may be rental units.
- The units may be detached, or they may be attached in blocks up to four units.
- The minimum lot size for the complex is five acres.
- The maximum density of the units is six per acre.
- No unit may have more than two bedrooms.
- The complex and units must meet American with Disabilities Act standards.
- Any complex exceeding twelve units must have a community space for mail, messages, meetings and recreation.
- The complex must have an outdoor community space for passive or active recreation.
- The complex must accommodate transit vans and have bicycle facilities.
- An association agreement, or property management plan if units are to be rentals, guaranteeing maintenance of the community property must be submitted with the application.

ADD TO THE §145-11 SCHEDULE OF USE REGULATIONS as Item 13 under Residential Uses:

Zone District	VR	AG-B	LR	MDR	AG-A	B-2	B-1	I	MHP
55-and-over housing	SP/P PA	SP/P PA	N	SP/P PA	N	N	N	N	SP/P PA

(Endorsed by Planning Board 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

(Prior to the final vote on the article, a proposed amendment which would have added "the maximum lot size for the complex is ten acres" did not carry.)

Article 25 On the article – To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Law, Town of Belchertown, Chapter 145, as previously amended by adding: Article II Zoning Districts, & Article IV Overlay Districts, (see entire text in Warrant), (Planning Board recommended no action 5-0)

it was voted to take no action.

(Vote – Unanimous No Action)

Article 26 Voted to designate Parcels B, D and E of the former Belchertown State School, also known on the Town Assessors' Maps as Map 243, Lot 178; Map 250, Lot 39; and Map 250, Lot 22, an Economic Opportunity Area.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 27 Voted to authorize the Town's participation in the Massachusetts Economic Development Incentive Program, per Chapter 19 of the Acts of 1993.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 28 Voted to amend the Personnel By-Law, as previously amended,

- **In Section 2. Coverage**

  - **Remove** from the first paragraph, first sentence the words: "recognized unions" and **Replace** with "collective bargaining units";

  - **Remove** the second paragraph in its entirety and **Replace** with the following language:

    Nothing in this By-Law shall be construed to be in conflict with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 31, if applicable, or Chapter 150E. If a provision of this By-Law shall be construed in its application to conflict with either of these statutes, the provisions of either or both of the statutes shall prevail.

  - **Remove** the third paragraph in its entirety and **Replace** with the following language:

    It shall be the policy of the Town of Belchertown to provide equal opportunity to all qualified applicants and to all employees with respect to initial appointment, advancement, compensation and general working conditions without regard to age, as defined by law, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, as defined by law, genetic information, religion or any other legally protected class.

- **In Section 3. Personnel Board**

  - **Remove** paragraph five in its entirety and **Replace** with the following language:

In case of emergency or operational necessity, the Personnel Board shall have the authority to fix the rates of pay and hours of work of employees, notwithstanding the limiting provisions of this By-Law.

- **In Section 4. Classification of Positions and Compensation**

  ➤ In the third sentence of paragraph one, **Remove** the word "assigned" and **Replace** with the word "appointed".

- **In Section 5. Hours of Work and Overtime**

  ➤ **Remove** paragraph A) in its entirety and **Replace** with the following language:

  For employees classified in Appendix A as Management, Administrative or Professional employees, full-time non-exempt employees and Senior Services employees, the payroll work week shall be Thursday through Wednesday. Full-time non-exempt employees shall be required to work a forty (40) hour workweek.

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits**

➤ **Remove** 1) Eligibility in its entirety and **Replace** with the following language:

1) ELIGIBILITY

A) Employees who are regularly scheduled to work thirty-five (35) hours or more per week shall be considered full-time employees and shall be eligible for the benefits under 2) Benefits upon the completion of thirty (30) calendar days of employment.

B) Employees who are regularly scheduled to work greater than twenty (20) hours per week, but less than thirty-five (35) shall be eligible for benefits under 2) Benefits upon the completion of thirty (30) calendar days employment as follows:

   i) They shall receive the same insurance and retirement benefits as full-time employees.

   ii) For all other benefits they shall receive an amount in proportion to the relationship of their normal workweek to that of a full-time employee. Seasonal employees are not eligible for benefits.

C) Part-time employees that are regularly scheduled to work less than twenty (20) hours per week are not eligible for the benefits outlined in paragraph B of this section.

➢ **Remove** 2) Benefits in its entirety and **Replace** with the following language:

2) BENEFITS:

A) SICK LEAVE: All regular full-time and eligible part-time employees covered by this By-Law shall be eligible for sick leave with pay as follows:

1) Sick leave with pay shall be earned at the rate of one and one quarter (1-1/4) days per month of full-time employment during the first year of employment and thereafter to a maximum accumulation of one hundred eighty (180) days. Accumulation in excess of one hundred eighty (180) days shall be forfeited.

2) Absences on account of sickness in excess of that authorized under this section, or for personal reasons not provided herein may, at the discretion of the Department Head, be charged to vacation with the approval of the employee.

3) For the protection of the Town, the Department Head may require the presentation of a doctor's certificate in connection with a claim for sick leave, and may, if it is deemed advisable send a doctor to investigate any absence alleged to be caused by illness. If such a certificate of hospital or doctors' records are not filed with the Department Head after request thereof, such absence shall not be chargeable to sick leave.

4) Subsequent certificates may be required at the discretion of the Department Head, before or at the time of returning to work to determine if the employee is physically fit. If such a certificate of hospital or doctors' records are not filed with the Department Head after request thereof, such absence shall not be chargeable to sick leave.

5) Employees having sick leave credit who are injured on the job and receiving Workers' Compensation shall, upon request, be granted such sick leave allowance payment as will, when added to the amount of the Workers' Compensation, result in the payment to them of their full

salary in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 152 of the General Laws. The total dollar value in work days shall be charged to sick leave credits accordingly.

6) All regular employees covered by this By-Law and meeting the following qualifications shall receive $9.00 per day for up to 180 days of unused accumulated sick leave in Belchertown during his/her final year.

a. Employees must be retiring after 15 years of service with the Town of Belchertown.

b. Must have at least 100 days of unused accumulative sick leave.

c. Must advise the Department Head at least sixty (60) calendar days in advance of his/her intention to retire, unless retirement is for medical reasons or is directly related to a reduction of the work force.

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits, 2) Benefits, Subsection 7) Sick Leave Bank:**

➢ In paragraph 1), third bulleted item **Insert** the words "from the same Department" after the words "Department Head".

➢ In paragraph 5), **Remove** the words "for just cause" and **Replace** with "due to illness or other permissible use".

➢ In the first sentence of paragraph 5a), **Remove** the word "permanent" and **Replace** with the word "eligible".

➢ In the paragraph 5b), **Remove** the words "salary" in two locations in this paragraph and **Replace** with the words "Sick Leave Bank leave" in both locations.

➢ In paragraph 8), in the first sentence **Remove** the word "time" and **Replace** with the word "leave".

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits, 3) Vacation:**

➢ **Remove** paragraph 1) in its entirety, and **Replace** with the following language:

"All regular full-time employees and eligible part-time employees covered by this By-Law shall be eligible for vacation leave to be credited on their anniversary date of each month as follows:"

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits, 4) Holidays:**

➢ **Remove** 4) Holidays in its entirety and **Replace** with the following language:

4) Holidays: All full-time and eligible part-time employees shall receive holiday pay for the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Washington's Birthday, Patriot's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day, ½ day before Christmas and Christmas Day notwithstanding the thirty (30) day eligibility period.

The Town expressly reserves the right to call in employees to meet its operational needs or in the event of an emergency.

An employee that is required to work on a holiday shall be paid at one and one-half times his or her base hourly rate for all hours actually worked in addition to his or her holiday pay. In the alternative, an employee that is required to work on a holiday may, with the approval of his or her supervisor, receive a special holiday leave for each eight hours worked. Special holiday leave earned for working on a holiday must be used in the same fiscal year in which it was earned.

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits, 5) Insurance:**

➢ **Insert** the following language:

C) The Town expressly reserves the right to alter, amend or change all insurance benefits without notice, subject to its collective bargaining obligations.

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits, 7) Bereavement:**

➢ **Remove** the words "exclusive of weekends" in both paragraphs A) and B).

➢ In paragraph C) **Add** the words "by the Department Head" following "...may be granted"

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits, 8) Personal Leave:**

➢ In the third sentence **Remove** the word “permanent” and **Replace** with the following: “regular full-time permanent and eligible part-time employees”.

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits, 9) Court Leave:**

➢ **Remove** the first sentence in its entirety and **Replace** with “All employees who are called for jury service, or summoned on behalf of the Town when the employee is not scheduled to work, shall be granted court leave with pay. If the jury fees amount to less than that of the employee’s regular rate of compensation, he/she shall be paid by the Town an amount equal to the difference between them. Notice of service shall be filed with the Department Head upon receipt of the summons.”

➢ **Remove paragraph** three, beginning with “When an employee has been granted court leave ...” in its entirety.

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits, 11) Maternity Leave:**

➢ **Delete** the word “Female”.

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits, 12) Military Leave:**

➢ In paragraph B) **Remove** the words “fourteen (14)”and **Replace** with the words “seventeen (17)”.

- **In Section 6. Employee Benefits, 14) Longevity:**

➢ **Insert** after the word “years” in each of the bulleted items the words “of service”.

- **Under Appendix A: Town Classification-Compensation Plan:**

➢ **Remove** 1) Management/Professional in its entirety and **Replace** with the following:

1) MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATIVE OR PROFESSIONAL EXEMPT

• Director of Public Works	$51,500-$61,800
• Fire Chief	$51,500-$61,800
• Library Director	$46,350-$56,650
• Director of Computing	$46,350-$56,650
• Town Planner	$46,350-$56,650

- Police Lieutenant	$45,653-$57,065
- Conservation Administrator	$41,200-$51,500
- Town Treasurer-Collector (filled @ 2/3 time)	$41,200-$51,500
- Building Inspector	$41,200-$51,500
- Director of Assessments	$41,200-$51,500
- Senior Center Director	$36,050-$46,350
- Recreation Director	$36,050-$46,350

➤In 2) Classified Non-Exempt Employees:

- **Adjust** grade of Building Custodian position to a Grade 3

- **Remove** the following position:
  - ➤ Social Services Aide

- **Add** the following positions:
  - ➤ Activities Coordinator – Grade 5
  - ➤ Sports Field Maintenance and Supply Laborer – Grade 4

- **Under APPENDIX B: WEEKLY SALARY SCHEDULE FOR CLASSFIED EMPLOYEES:**

➤ **Remove** compensation chart and **Replace** with the following compensation chart:

Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
1	7.43	7.73	8.03	8.35	8.69	9.04	9.40	9.77	10.17	10.57
2	8.91	9.27	9.64	10.02	10.42	10.85	11.28	11.72	12.21	12.69
3	9.81	10.20	10.60	11.02	11.46	11.93	12.40	12.90	13.42	13.95
4	10.77	11.22	11.66	12.12	12.62	13.12	13.65	14.19	14.76	15.35
5	11.87	12.34	12.82	13.35	13.87	14.43	15.01	15.60	16.23	16.88
6	13.05	13.57	14.11	14.67	15.26	15.87	16.51	17.17	17.85	18.57
7	14.36	14.92	15.52	16.15	16.79	17.46	18.16	18.88	19.64	20.42
8	15.07	15.67	16.29	16.95	17.63	18.33	19.07	19.83	20.62	21.45
9	15.82	16.46	17.11	17.80	18.51	19.25	20.02	20.83	21.65	22.53
10	16.61	17.28	17.97	18.69	19.44	20.21	21.02	21.87	22.73	23.65

- **In Section 9) Reduction of Force**

➤ **Remove** the second paragraph in its entirety and **Replace** with the following language:

Employees shall retain their seniority and sick leave time provided they are re-hired within two years (730 days) of the lay off date. An employee that is laid off will be compensated for his or her accrued, but unused vacation leave. An employee that is laid off will not be compensated for any other accrued, but unused leave including, but not limited to, sick leave and personal leave.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 29 Voted to amend the Code of Belchertown, Chapter 129, Article II, §129-10.B, as previously amended, *Handicapped Parking Fines*, by striking said subsection 129-10.B in its entirety and substituting the following:

B. The penalty for violation of §129-9 of this article shall be $100 for each offense. Said penalty may be recovered on complaint brought in the District Court or by non-criminal disposition pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, §21D and Chapter 1, Article II, Section 1-2 of these By-Laws. The enforcement agent for purposes of non-criminal disposition shall be any Police Officer of the Town of Belchertown. Each day on which a violation exists shall be deemed to be a separate offense. For each offense subsequent to the second offense, the vehicle may be removed according to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 266, §120D.

Further voted to amend the Code of Belchertown, Chapter 1, Article III, §1-2.C. by adding to the table set forth therein the following:

§129-9 Unauthorized vehicles; obstruction of curb ramp

Fine allowed	$100.00
Enforcement agent	Police Officers
Fine schedule	First and subsequent offenses $100.00

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 30 Voted to establish an ambulance receipts reserved for appropriations account. Receipts for ambulance services received in FY2002 that are in excess of the budget for FY2002 to be deposited to this account; for all subsequent fiscal years, one hundred (100%) of the receipts collected in the fiscal year are to be deposited to account. Appropriations from said account to be made at either annual or special town meetings for the purpose of operating the Town's ambulance service. Any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent years.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 31 Voted to establish a yearly ambulance subscription fee program, to allow any and all Belchertown residents not insured for ambulance services or who do not qualify for full payment by their insurer for same to become subscribers in the Belchertown Emergency Medical Services Ambulance. Payments of an annual subscription fee of fifty dollars ($50.00) per person or sixty dollars ($60.00) per household will entitle the subscriber(s) to unlimited emergency ambulance services, as needed, at no additional cost to that participant in the program, once payment by any available insurer has been exhausted. The program shall be administered in accordance with the guidelines as proposed by Belchertown Emergency Medical Services, subject to review and amendment by the Board of Selectmen. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 32 Voted to establish an ambulance subscriptions fees reserved for appropriation Account. One hundred (100%) of the receipts for voluntary subscriptions fees in the fiscal year are to be deposited to this account. Appropriations from said account to be made at either annual or special town meetings for the purpose of operating the Town's ambulance service. Any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent fiscal years. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes

Meeting dissolved at 8:40 p.m.

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

FOUNDED 1731 · INCORPORATED 1761

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
MASSACHUSETTS

Action taken at the Special Town Meeting held September 24, 2001 at Chestnut Hill Community School Auditorium FY02

Moderator – Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:37 p.m.
Registered voters present – 118 (Quorum required – 75)
The Clerk read the Return of the Warrant.

Article 1 Voted to approve the updated Economic Development Plan for the former Belchertown State School as presented at this Special Town Meeting. (See attached)

2/3's required (Vote – 2/3's Majority Yes) Hand count not necessary in accordance with town by-law

Article 2 Voted to amend the official Zoning By-Laws of the Town of Belchertown, as previously amended, by amending the Belchertown Zoning Map in the following manner: Change Assessors Map 250, Lots 38.1 and 37 on Turkey Hill Road, Belchertown, from B1, Limited Business, to B2, General Business. (Planning Board voted at Public Hearing unanimously yes)

2/3's required (Vote – 2/3's Majority Yes) Hand count not necessary in accordance with town by-law

Meeting dissolved at 7:47 p.m.

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

TOWN ELECTION MAY 21 2001

*Denotes elected

Office	Name		Prec.A	Prec.B	Prec.C	Total
Moderator 1 year	*Terry Scott Nagel		362	439	383	1184
	Sundry Writeins		5	2	4	11
		Blanks	136	127	153	416
		Total	503	568	540	1611
Selectmen 3 years	*Michael J. Reardon		272	304	255	831
	*Steven D. Rose		284	316	293	893
	William J. Huber		207	262	263	732
	Kevin M. LaCroix		90	75	94	259
	Sundry Writeins		1	0	1	2
		Blanks	152	179	174	505
		Total	1006	1136	1080	3222
School Committee 3 years	Thomas J. Holesovsky		48	52	50	150
	Tracy L. Johnson		47	61	59	167
	Nancy W. Karmelek		117	131	151	399
	Karen L. Kline		29	68	24	121
	*Mary Ellen O'Reilly-Bracey		166	151	133	450
	Sundry Writeins		0	0	1	1
		Blanks	96	105	122	323
		Total	503	568	540	1611
Planning Board 5 years	*Joe D. Gilman, Jr.		296	378	328	1002
	Sundry Writeins		5	0	5	10
		Blanks	202	190	207	599
		Total	503	568	540	1611
Board of Assessors 3 years	*Samuel J. Joyal		337	418	379	1134
	Sundry Writeins		0	1	2	3
		Blanks	166	149	159	474
		Total	503	568	540	1611
Housing Authority 5 years	*James J. Gambaro (Writein)	Results of recount conducted on 6/8/2001	11	18	3	32
	Marianne A. Beaulieu (Writein)		8	10	13	31
	Sundry Writeins		12	8	15	35
		Blanks	472	532	509	1513
		Total	503	568	540	1611

Board of Health 3 years	*Gail L. Gramarossa		277	349	301	927
	*Gary R. Racicot		217	264	238	719
	Sundry Writeins		1	0	2	3
		Blanks	511	523	539	1573
		Total	1006	1136	1080	3222
Councilor- Hampshire Council of Governments 2 years	*William R. Barnett		358	425	392	1175
	Sundry Writeins		0	0	0	0
		Blanks	145	143	148	436
		Total	503	568	540	1611
Question #l (re: acceptance of Community Preservation Act, MGL Ch44B, S 3-7) (See entire text in Warrant)		Yes	215	209	189	613
		*No	257	324	325	906
		Blanks	31	35	26	92
		Total	503	568	540	1611
		Votes cast on 5/21/2001	503	568	540	1611

(20% voted)

Registered Voters	Prec.A	Prec.B	Prec.C	Totals
Democrat	776	796	711	2283
Republican	372	442	467	1281
Libertarian	16	12	22	50
Green	5	2	5	12
Unenrolled	1451	1569	1448	4468
Others	3	5	5	13
Totals	2623	2826	2658	8107

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

God Bless America.
Land that I love
Stand beside her, and guide her
Thru the night with a light from above.
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam
God bless America
My home sweet home.

God Bless America,
Land that I love
Stand beside her,
And guide her,
Through the night
With the light from above,
From the mountains,
To the prairies,
To the ocean,
White with foam,
God bless America,
My home sweet home.
God bless America,
My home sweet home.

Written by Irving Berlin

Town of Belchertown Annual Report

2002

2002

ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

OF THE

FOUNDED 1731 · INCORPORATED 1761

TOWN OFFICERS

FOR THE

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN

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Cover photograph courtesy of Thomas J. Has Associates

CLAIRE AUSTIN
November 1917 – January 2003

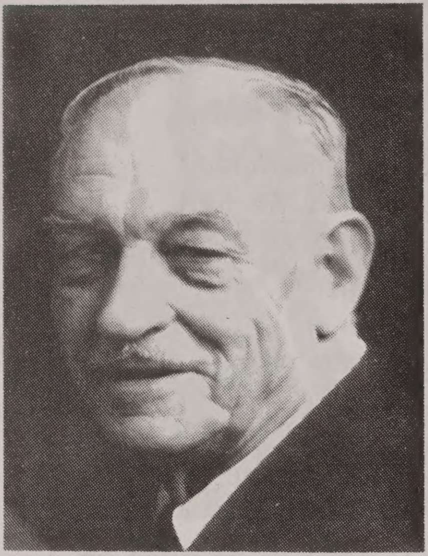
Claire Austin spent her childhood in Palmer but lived in Belchertown more than 50 years on the Austin Family Farm. She was active in school, church and community activities along with being an integral part of the family business. Generations of Belchertown school children hold fond memories of the warm homespun welcome and cool homemade ice cream that she provided for their annual field trip to the Austin Farm.

Devoted mother of 7, Mrs. Austin was a Gold Star Mother having been predeceased by a son, Lt. Michael P. Austin in 1971.

ALBERT W. BROWN, SR.
November 1925 – July 2002

"Brownie", as many affectionately called him, served the Town of Belchertown as its Tree Warden for more than three decades. For many years he worked at the former Belchertown State School.

He was affiliated with Vernon Lodge AF & AM, as well as the Mt. Vernon Chapter of the Eastern Star and the Melha Shrine of Springfield, Massachusetts.



DONALD R. LAPORTE
January 1927 – March 2002

Donald R. LaPorte was a Navy and Marine Veteran who served in both WWII and Korean Wars. He was a 4th degree Knight of the Knights of Columbus and a past Grand Knight. Donald was a former Hampshire County Councilor. He served on the Zoning Board of Appeals and was active in civic affairs for many years.

RICHARD NELSON
July 1934 – November 2002

Many will miss Richard Nelson, a longtime citizen of Belchertown. Richard worked for the Belchertown Highway Department for 30 years, retiring in 2001 from the Transfer Station. He loved animals and cared for the dogs at the Town's Dog Pound for many years.

Fond of nature, he often entered Garden or flower arrangements in the Exhibit Hall at the Belchertown Fair, one year proudly capturing the People's Choice grand prize.

2002 ELECTED OFFICERS

Almoners - Whiting Street and Susan M.D. Bridgman Funds

Linda E. Barron	5/2003
Suzanne M. Bay	5/2003

Trustees – Calvin Bridgman Fund

Sylvia C. Conkey	5/2004
Kenneth H. Snow	5/2003
Ann Austin Pratt (elected 5/02)	5/2005
Mary S. Pratt	5/2002

Councilor-Hampshire Council of Governments

William R. Barnett	5/2003

Board of Assessors

Samuel J. Joyal	5/2004
Michael P. Forgue	5/2003
Deborah M. Sammataro	5/2005

Board of Health

Gail L. Gramarossa	5/2004
Gary R. Racicot	5/2004
Roger M. Bonsall	5/2003
Lisa Walter-Zucco	5/2005
Kenneth Nolan (elected 5/02)	5/2005
Leonard R. Belisle	5/2002

Housing Authority

James J. Gambaro	5/2006
Tracey L. Thompson	5/2005
Sally M. Dodge	5/2004
Kenneth D. Nolan	5/2003
F. Knowlton Utley (State Mbr)	2/11/07

State appointed 2/14/2002

Moderator

Terry Scott Nagel	5/2003

Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District Committee Members

Judith C. Dudek	11/2004
Michael A. O'Connor (elected 11/02)	11/2006
Michael Roncolato	11/2002

Planning Board

Joe D. Gilman, Jr.	5/2006
Daniel R. Beaudette	5/2005
James J. Natle	5/2004
James A. Barry	5/2003
Elizabeth C. Chase	5/2007

School Committee

Mary Ellen O'Reilly Bracey	5/2004
Sharon D. Barnett	5/2003
Barbara Schaffer Bacon	5/2003
Edward R. Mitnick (resigned 1/1/03	5/2005
Richard D. White	5/2005

Board of Selectmen

Michael J. Reardon	5/2004
Steven D. Rose	5/2004
Ronald E. Aponte	5/2005
Gerald A. Grasso	5/2003
Linda E. Barron	5/2003

Town Clerk

William R. Barnett	5/2003

2002 APPOINTED OFFICERS

Town Accountant

Eleanor W. Green (retired 12/31/2002	6/30/03
Jill M. Besancon (appt 1/1/2003	6/30/03

Assistant Town Accountant

Jill M. Besancon	6/30/02

Town Administrator

Gary L. Brougham	6/30/03

Americans with Disabilities Act Committee

Paul Adzima, Coordinator	Final Report
Max Bock	Final Report
Gary L. Brougham	Final Report
Lee Concheri	Final Report
Sally Dodge	Final Report
Judith Metcalf	Final Report
Ruthella Tucker	Final Report
Steven J. Williams	Final Report

Director of Assessments (appointed by Board of Assessors)

John G. Whelihan	6/30/03

Civil Defense Director

Edward F. Bock	6/30/03

Civil Defense Deputy Director

Mark S. Brouillette	6/30/03

Civil Defense Radio Officer

Ronald R. Beaver	6/30/03

Civil Defense Members

John Milner	6/30/02

Belchertown's Community Emergency Response Coordinator

Edward F. Bock

Conservation Commission

Alfred P. Gallant, Jr.	6/30/04
Edward T. Knight	6/30/04
David M. Haines	6/30/03
F. Thomas Keefe (resigned 8/12/02)	6/30/03
Robert J. Rizzo	6/30/03
Joseph K. Babineau	6/30/05
Paul Eurkus	6/30/05
John Clements (appt 10/21/02)	6/30/03
Bruce Tolpa, Associate	6/30/03
Kurt Nelson, Associate (appt 2/11/02)	6/30/03

Constables

Andrew Sears	6/30/03
John Milner	6/30/02

Council on Aging

James R. Collard	6/30/04
Mildred Christenson	6/30/04
Doris M. Dickinson	6/30/04
George Dion	6/30/04
William Kimball	6/30/03
Ethel Casey	6/30/03
Marion Panto	6/30/03
Sally Dodge	6/30/05
Josephine Fitzgerald	6/30/05
Joan Poole	6/30/05
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick (appt 12/9/02)	6/30/05
Jeannette M. Crowther	6/30/02

Belchertown Cultural Council

Name	Term Expires
Katherine Fitzgerald	6/30/04
Lara Lynn Lane (resigned 8/30/02)	6/30/04
Sharon Cady-Harrison	6/30/03
Ljuba Marsh	6/30/03
MaryEllen Miller	6/30/05
Martina Robinson (appt 8/19/02)	6/30/05
Melanie S. Lewis (appt 9/23/02)	6/30/05
Arose Nielsen (appt 11/18/02)	6/30/04
Adam Sweet	6/30/02
Dennis E. Conway	6/30/02

Dog Officer

Name	Term Expires
Debra R. Michaud	4/30/03

Assistant Dog Officer

Name	Term Expires
Deborah O'Connor	4/30/03
Terri Hazzard (appt 9/16/02)	4/30/03
Erin Pino (appt 9/16/02)	4/30/03

Poundkeeper

Economic Development & Industrial Corporation (EDIC)

Name	Term Expires
Lloyd C. Chadbourne-Low Income Seat	6/30/05
Richard Steiner-Real Estate Seat	6/30/05
Peter S. Galuszka-At-Large Seat	6/30/04
William A. Terry-Government Seat	6/30/04
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick-Financial Seat	6/30/04
Eugenie Barry	6/30/03
Kirk Stephens	6/30/03
Paul Anziano, Associate	6/30/03
J. David Marley, Associate	6/30/03
Francesca Maltese, Ex-Officio (Removed 2/4/02)	

Economic Development & Industrial Corporation (EDIC) continued

Name	Term Expires
Gregory Galanek (Removed 2/4/02)	
Francis Callahan (Removed 2/4/02)	
Jonathan Spiegel (Removed 2/4/02)	
Mary Knight, Associate	6/30/02
David Roberts, Associate	6/30/02

EMS Operations Manager

Name	Term Expires
Steven A. Syriac	

EMS Department

Name	Term Expires
David Conkey	6/30/03
Kerry Gaughen	6/30/03
Bruce Jenks	6/30/03
Frances Lofland	6/30/03
Thomas Majerowski	6/30/03
Erica Larner (appt 2/11/02)	6/30/03
Hiram Rodriguez (appt 6/24/03)	6/30/03
Ryan Humason (appt 6/24/02)	6/30/03
William Gray (appt 6/24/02)	6/30/03
Scott Kier (appt 8/5/02)	6/30/03
Jonathan T. Smith-Call EMT (appt 12/9/02)	6/30/03
Jaime Lubelczyk-Call EMT (appt 12/9/02)	6/30/03
Carol Gagner – Call EMT (appt 12/30/2002)	6/30/03
Rachel Olbrys-Call EMT (appt 12/30/2002)	6/30/03
Kristina Mitchell-Call EMT (appt 12/30/2002)	6/30/03
Brina Fondi-Call EMT (appt 12/30/02)	6/30/03
Sean Bracey	6/30/02
James Daniels	6/30/02
Linda Kelleher	6/30/02
Jeff Scott	6/30/02
James Taylor	6/30/02

Fair Committee

William Austin	6/30/03
Marguerite Brennen	6/30/03
Cindy Brown	6/30/03
Kevin Brown	6/30/03
Carla Chaisson	6/30/03
Kevin LaCroix	6/30/03
Peg Louraine	6/30/03
Mark Nute	6/30/03
Cathy A. Terry	6/30/03

Belchertown Family Center

Lucy Klein	6/30/04
Karen Horak	6/30/04
Angie Tauer	6/30/03
Katherine J. Atkinson	6/30/03
Richard Poissant (appt 9/16/02)	6/30/05
Widi Sumaryono	6/30/02

Finance Committee

Luc Hardyn	6/30/04
Elise Wright	6/30/03
Daniel P. Kloss	6/30/04
David A. Reed	6/30/05
Paul M. Silva	6/30/05

Fire Chief

Edward F. Bock

Forest Fire Warden

Edward F. Bock

Hampshire County Local Emergency Planning Committee

Edward F. Bock

Hampshire Council of Government's Electric Cooperative Committee

Gary Brougham

Board of Health – Appointments

Burial Agent

William R. Barnett	6/30/03

Quabbin Health District

Randall Gauley,Health Inspector	6/30/03
Judy Metcalf, Director of Public Health	6/30/03

Physician Advisor to Board of Health

Yih-Ming Hsiao, M.D.	6/30/03

Inspector of Animals

Gary Racicot (appt 5/20/02)	2/28/03
Cynthia Stedman	2/28/02

High School Building Committee

Douglas Albertson	Final Report
Eric Bernardin	Final Report
Edward J. Ciosek	Final Report
Patrick S. Daly	Final Report
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick	Final Report
Gerald A. Grasso	Final Report
Simon James	Final Report
Robert Lachance	Final Report
Elizabeth Radwilowicz	Final Report
Franklin D. Wenzel	Final Report
Richard White	Final Report
James Brown, Associate Mbr	
David M. Sammataro, Associate	
Melissa Michaud, Non Voting Adjunct Mbr	
Thomas O'Donnell, Jr. (non-voting member)	
Richard Pazasis, Ex-Officio	

Historical Commission

Kenneth F. Kitchell, Jr.	6/30/04
Judith Fuller Gillan	6/30/04
Adam Sweet (removed 6/3/02)	6/30/03
Leslie Squires	6/30/05
Michael F. Dolan (appt 7/22/03)	6/30/03
Bonnie Strickland (appt 8/5/02)	6/30/05
Ethel M. Brunson (appt 11/18/02)	6/30/05
Genevieve G. Schrieber (appt 11/4/2002	6/30/03
James Chevalier	6/30/02
Gail Pisacane	6/30/02

Historic District Commission

Jacqueline Dupre	6/30/04
Annie M. Steiner	6/30/03
Louis Faassen	6/30/03
Stacy M. Race	6/30/05
Beth A. Behn (appt 10/21/02)	6/30/05
John B. Curry III	6/30/02

Holiday Lighting Committee

Peg Louraine	6/30/02
Jay Rossi	6/30/02
Cheryl Dutton	6/30/02
Debra J. Grudgen	6/30/02

Industrial Development Financing Authority (IDFA)

David Barszcz	- Real Estate Seat	6/30/06
Paul Dansereau	- Financial Seat	6/30/05
Steven Rose	At Large Seat	6/30/04
Barry Crosby (Appt 3/5/02)	At Large Seat	6/30/03
David Roberts	Government “	6/30/02

Inspector of Buildings

Paul Adzima	6/30/05

Assistant Inspector of Buildings

Michael T. Henry	6/30/03

Inspector of Plumbing and Gas Fittings

David Fredenburgh, Jr.	6/30/03

Assistant Inspector of Plumbing and Gas Fittings

Christopher A. Hubbard	6/30/03

Inspector of Wiring

Paul Choiniere	6/30/03
Harvey Beaupre (appt 6/24/02)	6/30/03

Assistant Inspector of Wiring

Douglas Rae	6/30/03
Harvey Beaupre	6/30/02

Personnel Board

Maureen A. Wildley	6/30/04
Julie W. Peck	6/30/04
M. Florine Neggers	6/30/03
Themis J. Tsoumas	6/30/03
David C. Kuzmeski (appt 6/12/02)	6/30/05

Town Planner

Douglas Albertson

Planning Board – AlternateVoting Member for Special Permits

George Synan	7/24/03

Planning Board – Associate Member (Members Appointed)

Susan Bradway	8/14/02
Carolann Koehler	8/14/02

Name Office Term Expires

Police Candidate Review Committee

Orin Bracey	6/30/02
Al Roccanti	6/30/02

Police Chief

Robert A. Knight (retired 12/30/02)	
Francis R. Fox, Jr. (appt 12/31/02)	12/31/05

Police Department - Lieutenant

William C. Zobka	6/30/03

Police Department – Sergeants (Full-time)

Francis Fox, Jr.	6/30/03
Ernest M. Gay, Jr.	6/30/03
James Jackson, Jr.	6/30/03

Police Department – Patrol Officers (Full-time)

Roy F. Bergeron	6/30/03
Sean Bracey	6/30/03
David A. Conkey	6/30/03
Bruce Jenks	6/30/03
Winthrop N. Kellogg	6/30/03
Edward H. Oey	6/30/03
Kevin J. Pacunas	6/30/03
William A. Panto	6/30/03
Kevin G. Truehart	6/30/03
James Daniels	6/30/03
Jeffrey Scott (appt 6/24/02)	6/30/03
Valerie Cote (appt 6/24/02)	6/30/03

Police Department – Patrol Officers (Part-time)

John Bonafini	6/30/03
James Taylor	6/30/03
William C. Zobka, Jr.	6/30/03
Adam Brougham	6/30/03

Name Office Term Expires

Sean Hamel	6/30/02
Jeffrey Scott	6/30/02
Valerie Anderson	6/30/02

Police Station Building Committee

Peter Burton	Final Report
John B. Curry, III	Final Report
Susan Dawley	Final Report
Donna Deroin	Final Report
Robert W. Farrington	Final Report
Robert Henrichon	Final Report
Douglas Rae	Final Report
David Squires	Final Report
William Terry	Final Report
Robert Knight, Police Chief,	Ex-Officio
Linda E. Barron, Selectman,	Ex-Officio

Procurement Officer

Gary L. Brougham

Eleanor Green, Assistant (retired 12/30/020

Public Weigher

Joseph W. Tolpa, Jr.	6/30/03

Public Works Director

Steven J. Williams

PVPC Joint Transportation Committee

Steven J. Williams	6/30/03
Gary Brougham, Alternate	6/30/03
Douglas Albertson, Alternate (appt 6/10/02)	6/30/03

PVPC (Pioneer Valley Planning Commission) Representatives

Daniel R. Beaudette	
Douglas Albertson, Alternate	6/30/03

PVTA Advisory Board

W. Daniel Fitzpatrick	6/30/03

Quabbin Health District Task Force Committee

(All members appointed 1/22/02)

Janise Fitzpatrick - Voting Mbr.	Final Report
Raymond Goulet - Voting Mbr.	Final Report
Robert Bishop - Voting Mbr.	Final Report
Michael Reardon	Final Report

Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce Business Assistance Loan Program (Belchertown's Representative)

Gregory Galanek	6/30/03

Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce Regional Economic Development (Belchertown's Representatives)

Michael Reardon	Final Report
David Roberts	Final Report

Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee (Belchertown's Representative)

Richard Steiner

Rationing Board

David H. Squires	6/30/04
Richard F. Dzialo	6/30/03
Patricia J. Mitchell	6/30/05

Recreation Building Study Committee

Garry M. Bock	Final Report
David Cushing	Final Report
James Phaneuf	Final Report
Tilo R. Schiffer	Final Report
Themis J. Tsoumas	Final Report
Michael VanDyke	Final Report

Recreation Committee

Kathleen W. Scruton	6/30/04
Nancy A. Kwiatkowski	6/30/04
Thomas P. Kubacki	6/30/04
William Edlridge	6/30/03
Rebecca A. Smith	6/30/05
Robert L.Chartier	6/30/05
Bruce C. Smith	6/30/05
Chris Daley, Associate	6/30/03
Karen Schiffer, Associate	6/30/03

Recreation Director

Robert S. Opalenik

(Advisory) Regional Economic Development Commission – Regarding the Ware River Valley Regional Economic Target Area

W. Daniel Fitzpatrick

Registrars of Voters

Pauline C. Johnson	3/31/04
M. Florine Neggers	3/31/03
Dorothy A. Pomietlarz	3/31/05
William R. Barnett	6/30/03

Assistant Registrars of Voters

Robert Hansbury (Belchertown High School)	3/31/03
Richard M. Sinkoski (Pathfinder)	3/31/03

Precinct Coordinator

Marcel Archambault (appt 5/13/02)	6/30/03

Name Office Term Expires

Election Officers – Precinct A

Elizabeth Leger (Warden) (appt 5/13/02)	6/30/03
Helen Plant (Clerk) (appt 5/13/02)	6/30/03

Election Officers – Precinct B

Diane Ricchiazzi (Warden) (appt 5/13/02)	6/30/03
Donna Abely (Clerk) (appt 5/13/02)	6/30/03

Election Officers – Precinct C

Eileen D. Staples (Warden) (appt 5/13/02)	6/30/03
Clara Very (Clerk) (appt 5/13/02)	6/30/03

Election Officers – Precinct D

Susan Dion (Warden) (appt 5/13/02)	6/30/03
Richard Barrell (Clerk) (appt 5/13/02)	6/30/03

Rent Control Board

Steven Syriac	6/30/06
Helen Plant	6/30/05
Mitchell Vincent	6/30/04
Tracy Steadman	6/30/03
Daniel Beaudette	6/30/07

School Crossing Guards

Sealer of Weights and Measures

Paul Adzima	6/30/03

Name Office Term Expires

Senior Center Building Committee

Eva Terri Ericksberg	Final Report
Ellen Hall	Final Report
Samuel Joyal	Final Report
William F. Kimball, Jr.	Final Report
M. Florine Neggers	Final Report
Alice Peden	Final Report
Michael Reardon	Final Report
James Shea	Final Report
Lorraine Zatyrka	Final Report

Skate Park Committee

Guy Savoie	6/30/04
Nathan Tarleton (resigned 7/18/02)	6/30/04
Cynthia Bourbeau (resigned 6/28/02)	6/30/03
Amy D'Amours	6/30/03
Ann Phelps	6/30/03
Lynn Sikes	6/30/03
Debra Grudgen (appt 7/22/03)	6/30/05
Robin Marion (appt 8/19/02)	6/30/04
Steven Syriac (appt 8/19/02)	6/30/05
Nancy Barnes	6/30/02
Randy Johnson, Associate	6/30/02
Michele Auletta, Associate	6/30/02

Sexual Harassment Grievance Officer

Gary L. Brougham

Overseer of Willard Stebbins Account

Michael J. Reardon
Suzanne Bay
James Chevalier

Superintendent of Insect Pest Control

Steven J. Williams	6/30/03

Name Office Term Expires

Telecommunications Advisory Committee

Arthur L. Dunbar	6/30/03
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick	6/30/03
James P. Kearney	6/30/03
Frank Lomanno	6/30/03
Andrew J. Katafiasz	6/30/03

Assistant Town Clerk

Colleen K. Toothill-Berte	6/30/03

Treasurer-Collector

William R. Barnett (retired 12/31/020	6/30/03
Lisa M. Banner (appt 1/1/03)	6/30/03

Assistant Treasurer/Collector

Lisa M. Banner	6/30/03

Deputy Collectors

Shirley Dillard (office)	8/2002
Arthur C. Jones	12/2002
William F. Corbett	12/2002

Town Counsel

Attorney Leonard Kopelman, Kopelman and Paige	6/30/03

Veterans Graves Officer

Vincent Viglione	3/31/03

Assistant Veterans Graves Officer

Kathleen Wood	3/21/03
John Milner	3/31/02

Veterans Services Agent

Robert C. Messier	6/30/03

Name Office Term Expires

Veterans Burial Agent

Robert C. Messier

War Memorial Committee

Francis A. Dudek	6/30/04
Edward T. Knight	6/30/03
F. Thomas Keefe	6/30/03
Leo Beauchemin	6/30/03
Peter G. Thorpe	6/30/05
Susan Gay, Associate Member	6/30/03

Zoning Board of Appeals

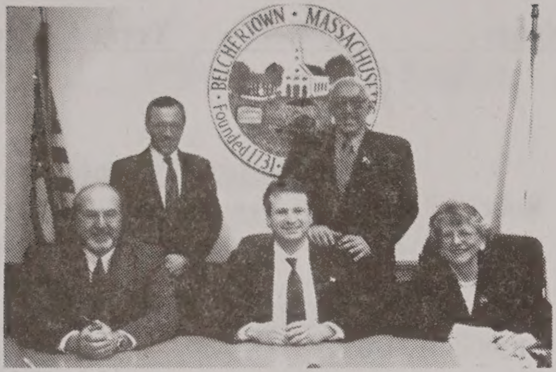
Richard G. Barry	6/30/04
Diane Loftus Mas	6/30/03
Raymond G. Goff	6/30/05

Associate Members - Board of Appeals

John Milner	6/30/02
Gregory A. Galanek	6/30/03
Kevin LaCroix	6/30/03
Patricia M. LaFore (appt 10/21/02)	6/30/03

Zoning Enforcement Officer

Paul Adzima	6/30/03



Board of Selectmen
Front (left to right): Michael Reardon, Ronald Aponte, Linda Barron. Rear (left to right): Steven Rose, Gerald Grasso.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

For Belchertown, 2002 was a year of seemingly contrasting events. It was a time of continued residential growth yet it also marked the beginning of success in a concentrated effort to increase the business tax base in Town. 2002 was a year of budgetary challenges yet it also showed that differing Town constituencies can cooperate and unite for the good of the Town. While 2002 was a time to honor the service of several dedicated, long-term Town employees who retired in 2002, it was also a year that closed with high expectations as Belchertown embraced the opportunity to recognize and promote their eager and worthy subordinates.

With nearly 100 new homes built during the year, 2002 was a continuation of a long-term trend of very high residential growth in Town. The subsequent increase in demand for Town services was evident in several 2002 projects. Undoubtedly, the opening of the new Belchertown High School was the most significant of these projects. Opened on time and under budget, the new High School was opened with much fanfare and instantly became an icon of Belchertown's promising future. The completion of the water/sewer line project that extended service to the new high school and to the Pine Valley retirement community when coupled with the initiation of another water/sewer line expansion project for the Tri-Lakes area of Town bore testimony to the expanding demands for vital infrastructure services in Town. Other projects such as the completion of a new Post Office and the resurfacing of several major Town roads indicate that many aspects of Town life are affected by our unparalleled rate of growth.

Since the overwhelming majority of Belchertown's property taxes are paid by homeowners, the necessary but expensive growth-related projects impose a considerable and onerous financial burden upon many Town residents. In an effort to lessen this burden, Town officials have been exploring avenues to attract businesses to Belchertown. 2002 marked the beginning of success in this effort. On a picturesque Fall day, after many years of preparation and anticipation, Stop and Shop opened a new state-of-the-art grocery store. This store will not only provide a vital service for the Town but it will also provide jobs and much needed tax revenue. Another significant event in Belchertown's effort to increase its business tax base was the acquisition of the former State School land by the Town's economic development arm commonly referred to as the EDIC. With over 300 acres spread out over three parcels in the heart of Town, this acquisition allowed the EDIC to begin marketing this promising land to potential developers. Their efforts were quickly rewarded as they sold one parcel to a local developer. The developer has begun constructing a mixed-use complex that will house both retail and office components. Additionally, the developer is extending an existing water/sewer line to the complex thus rendering adjacent properties far more marketable and developable. With these developments as well as, other proposed existing business expansions, Belchertown seems well positioned to augment its business tax base in the near future.

With a notably sluggish State economy and dwindling State Aid to municipalities, Belchertown was faced with fiscal and budgetary challenges not experienced since the late eighties and early nineties. These concerns were exacerbated by rising energy and health insurance expenses, including a "catch-up" insurance premium payment of over $250,000 that was mandated by the Town's insurance cooperative. With these challenges, it's not surprising that there was much trepidation, suspicion and special interest advocacy during the budget process. However, the Town showed its true spirit and character as the citizens embraced and supported a cooperative budgetary solution that was formulated between the Finance Committee, the School Committee and the Board of Selectman. As a result, at the May Town Meeting, the Town passed a creative yet equitable budget that utilized a combination of tax revenues, a Stabilization Fund "loan" and anticipated "free cash" to fund a budget that allowed for vital services while requiring all departments to help shoulder the financial shortfalls that beset the Town.

Due to a State-backed early retirement program, 2002 saw the close of a chapter in Belchertown's senior management team. These integral, long time employees, Eleanor Green - Town Accountant, Bill Barnett - Treasurer/Collector and Robert Knight - Police Chief all retired at the end of the year. While their experience, expertise and stewardship has been greatly appreciated by the Town, they are leaving Belchertown in good hands. This is because they have successfully groomed three capable and enthusiastic successors. Jill Besancon, Lisa Banner and Fran Fox all endured and ultimately prevailed in an extensive and thorough hiring process to replace their distinguished predecessors. Although the aforementioned Belchertown pillars are impossible to truly replace and their contributions will certainly be missed, the Town is still well positioned for continued success with their capable and professional successors.

I would be remiss in summarizing 2002, if I didn't mention the effect of the Nation's war on terrorism on Belchertown. Although, battles in far off lands seem very distant to many, this war has a definite impact on Town life. Several of Belchertown's residents have been called upon to serve their obligations to the nation by fulfilling National Guard and other military responsibilities. This directly affected the Board of Selectmen when Selectman Gerry Grasso was called on active duty during the Spring. Mr. Grasso, along with many other area soldiers and Guardsmen, fulfilled their duties not with complaints of family separation and life disruption but with an honor and professionalism that befits our country's military. I speak on behalf of the Board of Selectmen when I say thank you to these brave men and women and I consider it a supreme honor to serve with and for these American patriots.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ronald E. Aponte, Chairman
Belchertown Board of Selectmen

Gary L. Brougham, Town Administrator

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town Administrator's office, in conjunction with the Selectmen's Office, is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Town. Now located in the Finnerty House at One South Main Street, these combined offices plan, direct, manage and execute a variety of programs, policies and procedures developed by our Board of Selectmen and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Much the same as the environment we live in, these polices, procedures and programs are constantly undergoing change to ensure appropriate application. In addition, we are the onsite recipients of all correspondence and/or complaints directed to the Selectmen either individually or as a Board. Although this task appears to become more complex each year, we strive to acknowledge each and every issue in a sincere and professional manner.

As year 2002 rapidly comes to a close, I am very pleased with the extraordinary progress we have experienced these past 12 months. For the first time in our history, residents of our community are able to shop at Belchertown's first supermarket, Stop & Shop. Long awaited, this sparkling clean facility of 60,000 square feet has become a key employment destination for local residents, a major source of tax revenue and great service provided to our community. In the very near future, I anticipate additional construction at this location to include an area banking institution and several retail outlets.

In addition to this major accomplishment, the Belchertown School Department assumed beneficial use of its new High School. This tremendous facility is the product of a multi-year initiative involving volunteers, elected officials and paid employees of the Town. If you haven't had the privilege of touring this outstanding facility, please make a point of doing so. I am confident you will be pleasantly surprised and sincerely appreciative of the thousands of hours of planning, construction, oversight and implementation these individuals contributed to the project.

Although these two projects were the focal point of our energies, we also substantially completed two key infrastructure projects and broke ground on a third. After months of activity, the Pine Valley and Springfield Road Sewer Projects were officially completed and ground was broken for the long awaited Tri-Lakes Sewer Project. This multi-contract project will position municipal sewer service to the majority of homes within the Tri-Lakes region and become the first line of defense at eliminating harmful nutrient infiltration into the surface water of the Lakes Region. We anticipate a spring 2004 completion of this project with entrance availability possibly beginning in the fall of 2003.

As our community continues to build quality objective-based infrastructure, there are economic, environmental and quality of life benefits associated with these enhancements. While we can easily showcase the new High School and Stop & Shop Supermarket as products of a progressive community, we have witnessed solid growth in other areas as well. One of these areas is in the number of new housing starts Belchertown experiences each year. Totaling near or slightly in excess of 100, the value and desirability of these homes is a true testament to our outstanding school system, open space and property values.

In addition, we have realized an increase in the amount of business development. A key economic project that is currently under construction is located at the corner of Routes 21 and 202. This construction, utilizing a portion of the former Belchertown State School property, includes a new Easthampton Savings Bank, in addition to a reported physical therapy facility and health club. There will be other business development at this location and former Belchertown State School campus in the coming months.

In other areas of town two significant projects of local businesses are underway. A major alteration/construction of an existing commercial area near the CVS plaza and a third and possible fourth bank are planned for the coming year. All of these initiatives will provide business-based tax revenue, services and/or employment opportunities to our residents. I welcome and expect this upsurge in business development to continue in the years to come in spite of a troubled economy that has continually challenged our state and local budgets.

In an effort to alleviate budget constraints, the Commonwealth offered many state employees an early retirement incentive in the spring of the year. This opportunity was later offered for local endorsement and implementation. After serious consideration, Belchertown officials extended the local early retirement incentive to its eligible employees. In all, ten longtime employees of our town took advantage of this offer and stepped away for their respective positions. As a result, we engaged in a major hiring campaign to replace these dedicated employees who had provided hundreds of years of service in various capacities. We wish them all the luck and happiness for a most enjoyable and extended retirement. In addition, I would like to congratulate and welcome all those individuals who were promoted or otherwise assigned to these vacancies or other employment opportunities within our town. We are all very much aware of the vital role all of our employees play in making Belchertown a special place.

As leaders of your community, we realize there is no single incentive or opportunity available to us that will eliminate our future financial challenges. We will, however, continue to evaluate all opportunities, take advantage of what delivers solid returns for our community and encourage desirable growth.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary L. Brougham
Town Administrator

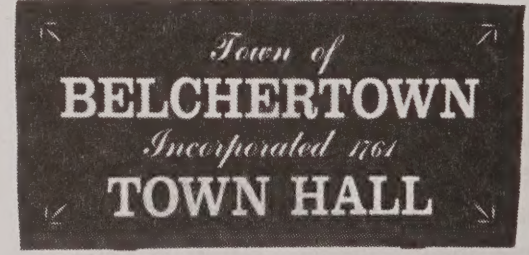
FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is comprised of five non-compensated members who are appointed by the Town Moderator. No member may hold any other elected or appointed Town position during his or her term. The Board of Selectmen, other Town officers or other boards do not govern the Committee.

The two primary functions of the Committee are to:

- Serve as an advisory body to Town Meeting regarding fiscal matters, and
- Administer the Town's Reserve Fund

In its advisory capacity, the Committee reviews budget requests for each Town department, makes recommendations and presents the Town budget to Annual Town Meeting. The Committee also reviews Warrant Articles that have a financial impact to the Town and makes recommendations on these items as Annual or Special Town Meetings.



The Reserve Fund is the Town's emergency fund. It is utilized to fund unforeseen non-budgeted expenses that are time sensitive and cannot be postponed until Town Meeting.

For Fiscal Year 2003 (July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003) the Town's budgeted operating expenses have increased by approximately $4.2 million (15.3%) as compared to Fiscal Year 2002 appropriations. The majority of additional operating expenses are attributable to increases in interest and debt expense ($2.6 million) as payments on the new high school began in Fiscal Year 2003. Additional increases include the Belchertown School District and Pathfinder ($1.2 million) and increases in pension and health insurance costs ($123,000). Town departments grew marginally primarily due to increases in salaries and wages.

Due to the budget constraints at both the state and town level, spending for the foreseeable future must be limited to "necessary priorities" for the Town of Belchertown.

The Stabilization Fund was increased from approximately $200,000 to nearly $1 million in December 2002. Unfortunately, the ability to maintain the Stabilization Fund at the current level is unlikely due to the current financial difficulties at the state level.

The Finance Committee is committed to act responsibly and examine each request made in the Department budgets, which comprise the overall operating budget for the Town. We are also committed to advising the Town Meeting on any capital appropriation in a manner that has reviewed factors including cost efficiency, cost savings and increased service, which will benefit the residents of Belchertown. We are in a position of working collaboratively with the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee during the annual budget process and as needs arise during the fiscal year with the common goal of providing quality services and maintaining prudent financial decision-making. It is with these things in mind that the Finance Committee exercises its responsibility to advise Town Meeting on matters which impact the amount of tax dollars paid by the residents and homeowners of Belchertown.

Respectfully submitted,

Finance Committee
Paul Silva, Chairman
Luc Hardyn, Vice-Chairman
Daniel Kloss, Clerk
David Reed
Elise Wright

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Combined Balance Sheet
All Types, Funds, and Account Groups
for the Period Ended June 30, 2002

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Sewer Enterprise	Landfill Enterprise	Fiduciary Trust Funds	Long Term Debt	Totals (Memo Only)
ASSETS								
Cash	4,116,538.32	1,428,057.19	5,177,308.61	299,916.86	195,016.24	1,451,041.09		12,667,878.31
Petty Cash Advance	25.00	6,360.00						6,385.00
Accounts Receivable:								
Property Taxes	615,493.28							615,493.28
Property Taxes of 2003	6,591,524.80							6,591,524.80
Excise Taxes	220,717.00							220,717.00
Tax Liens	1,082,742.89			5,471.00				1,088,213.89
Special Assessments	247,894.95							247,894.95
Departmental	179,694.02			124,923.21				304,617.23
Less Allow. for Uncollectible	(285,313.61)							(285,313.61)
Tax Foreclosures	20,238.71							20,238.71
Lieu Taxes	1,500.00							1,500.00
Due From Other Governments	25,389.00	370,604.43	540,300.00					936,293.43
Amt. To be Provided-Notes Payable		267,000.00	1,136,400.00					1,403,400.00
Amt. To be Provided-Pmt of Debt							51,467,105.00	51,467,105.00
Amt. To be Prov.-Compensated Absences							2,027,483.60	2,027,483.60
Total Assets	12,816,444.36	2,072,021.62	6,854,008.61	430,311.07	195,016.24	1,451,041.09	53,494,588.60	77,313,431.59
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY								
Liabilities:								
Warrants Payable	1,747,482.01	186,645.41	3,373.64	22,844.49	16,547.39	1,981.50		1,978,874.44
Employee Withholdings	(42,249.37)	1,025.00						(41,224.37)

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Combined Balance Sheet
All Types, Funds, and Account Groups
for the Period Ended June 30, 2002

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Sewer Enterprise	Landfill Enterprise	Fiduciary Trust Funds	Long Term Debt	Totals (Memo Only)
Deferred Revenue:								
Property Taxes	6,881,704.47							6,881,704.47
Excise Taxes	220,717.00							220,717.00
Tax Liens	1,082,742.89			5,471.00				1,088,213.89
Special Assessments	247,894.95							247,894.95
Lieu Taxes	1,500.00							1,500.00
Departmental	179,694.02			124,923.21				304,617.23
Tax Foreclosures	20,238.71							20,238.71
Government Receivable		351,824.80						351,824.80
Grant Receivable		18,779.63	540,300.00					559,079.63
Grant Anticipation Notes Payable		267,000.00	415,300.00					682,300.00
Bond Anticipation Notes Payable			721,100.00					721,100.00
Unclaimed Checks	12,247.44							12,247.44
Bond Indebtedness							51,467,105.00	51,467,105.00
Compensated Absences							2,027,483.60	2,027,483.60
Total Liabilities	10,351,972.12	825,274.84	1,680,073.64	153,238.70	16,547.39	1,981.50	53,494,588.60	66,523,676.79
Fund Equity:								
Reserve for Encumbrances	172,843.74							172,843.74
Reserve for Expenditures	155,745.00			134,294.00	128,821.00			418,860.00
Fund Bal. Designated for Over/Under	(4,239.00)							(4,239.00)
Unreserved Fund Balance	2,140,122.50							2,140,122.50
Reserved Fund Balance		1,210,106.96	5,173,934.97	142,778.37	49,647.85	1,449,059.59		8,025,527.74
Title V Septic System Loan		36,639.82						36,639.82
Total Fund Equity	2,464,472.24	1,246,746.78	5,173,934.97	277,072.37	178,468.85	1,449,059.59	0.00	10,789,754.80
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	12,816,444.36	2,072,021.62	6,854,008.61	430,311.07	195,016.24	1,451,041.09	53,494,588.60	77,313,431.59

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
General Fund
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2002

ASSETS		
Cash		4,116,538.32
Petty Cash Advance		25.00
Accounts Receivable:		
Property Taxes	615,493.28	
Property Taxes of 2003	6,591,524.80	
Excise Taxes	220,717.00	
Tax Liens	1,082,742.89	
Special Assessments	247,894.95	
Lieu Taxes	1,500.00	
Departmental	179,694.02	
Less Allowance for Uncollectible	(285,313.61)	
		8,654,253.33
Due from Other Governments		25,389.00
Tax Foreclosure		20,238.71
Total Assets		12,816,444.36
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY		
Liabilities:		
Warrants Payable		1,747,482.01
Employee Withholdings		(42,249.37)
Deferred Revenue:		
Property Taxes	6,881,704.47	
Excise Taxes	220,717.00	
Tax Liens	1,082,742.89	
Special Assessments	247,894.95	
Lieu Taxes	1,500.00	
Departmental	179,694.02	
Tax Foreclosures	20,238.71	
		8,634,492.04
Unclaimed Checks		12,247.44
Total Liabilities		10,351,972.12
FUND EQUITY		
Reserve for Expenditures		155,745.00
Reserve for Encumbrances		172,843.74
Fund Balance Designated for Over/Under		(4,239.00)
Unreserved Fund Balance		2,140,122.50
Total Fund Equity		2,464,472.24
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity		12,816,444.36

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Special Revenue - Combining Balance Sheet
June 30, 2002

		GRANTS			School			Totals
	Highways	Federal	State	School Lunch	Revolvings	Departmental	Agency Funds	(Memo Only)
ASSETS								
Cash	9,378.27	59,017.50	368,344.76	34,429.74	75,881.89	672,279.70	208,725.33	1,428,057.19
Petty Cash Advance						6,360.00		6,360.00
Due From Commonwealth	126,309.53		209,905.27			18,779.63		354,994.43
Amount to be Provided-Notes Payable	59,600.00		207,400.00					267,000.00
Due from Federal Government		15,610.00						15,610.00
Total Assets	195,287.80	74,627.50	785,650.03	34,429.74	75,881.89	697,419.33	208,725.33	2,072,021.62
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY								
Liabilities:								
Warrants Payable		67,071.71	48,782.77	4,878.67	3,431.03	45,932.23	16,549.00	186,645.41
Deferred Revenue - Gov't Receivable	126,309.53	15,610.00	209,905.27					351,824.80
Employee Withholdings							1,025.00	1,025.00
Grant Anticipation Note	59,600.00		207,400.00					267,000.00
Deferred Revenue - Grant Receivable						18,779.63		18,779.63
Total Liabilities	185,909.53	82,681.71	466,088.04	4,878.67	3,431.03	64,711.86	17,574.00	825,274.84
Fund Equity:								
Desig. for Subsequent Years Expense	9,378.27	(8,054.21)	319,561.99	29,551.07	72,450.86	596,067.65	191,151.33	1,210,106.96
Title V Septic System Loan						36,639.82		36,639.82
Total Fund Equity	9,378.27	(8,054.21)	319,561.99	29,551.07	72,450.86	632,707.47	191,151.33	1,246,746.78
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	195,287.80	74,627.50	785,650.03	34,429.74	75,881.89	697,419.33	208,725.33	2,072,021.62

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Capital Projects Fund
Combined Balance Sheet
June 30, 2002

	High School	Health Title V	Police Station Sr. Center	Fire Station	WWTP Upgrade PVP/Tri-Lakes	Health Grant	Totals (Memo. Only)
ASSETS							
Cash	4,260,119.29	3,583.00	65,922.47	2,326.88	832,633.67	12,723.30	5,177,308.61
WPAT Receivable		125,000.00					125,000.00
U.S.D.A. Grant Receivable					415,300.00		415,300.00
Amt. To be Prov. For Notes Pay.		0.00			1,136,400.00		1,136,400.00
Total Assets	4,260,119.29	128,583.00	65,922.47	2,326.88	2,384,333.67	12,723.30	6,854,008.61
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY							
Liabilities:							
Warrants Payable	1,304.14		915.21	1,154.29			3,373.64
Deferred Rev.-WPAT Rec'ble		125,000.00					125,000.00
Deferred Rev.-USDA Grant					415,300.00		415,300.00
Bond Anticipation Note					721,100.00		721,100.00
Grant Anticipation Note Payable					415,300.00		415,300.00
Total Liabilities	1,304.14	125,000.00	915.21	1,154.29	1,551,700.00	0.00	1,680,073.64
Fund Equity:							
Reserved Fund Balance	4,258,815.15	3,583.00	65,007.26	1,172.59	832,633.67	12,723.30	5,173,934.97
Total Fund Equity	4,258,815.15	3,583.00	65,007.26	1,172.59	832,633.67	12,723.30	5,173,934.97
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	4,260,119.29	128,583.00	65,922.47	2,326.88	2,384,333.67	12,723.30	6,854,008.61

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Sewer Enterprise Fund
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2002

ASSETS		
Cash		299,916.86
Accounts Receivable:		
Sewer Liens Added to Taxes	12,307.34	
Sewer User Fees	112,615.87	
Due from Tax Liens - Sewer	5,471.00	
		130,394.21
Total Assets		430,311.07
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY		
Liabilities:		
Warrants Payable		22,844.49
Deferred Revenue:		
Sewer Liens	12,307.34	
Sewer User Fees	112,615.87	
Tax Liens - Sewer	5,471.00	
		130,394.21
Total Liabilities		153,238.70
Fund Equity:		
Reserved for Expenditure		134,294.00
Retained Earnings		142,778.37
Total Fund Equity		277,072.37
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity		430,311.07

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Landfill Enterprise Fund
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2002

ASSETS	
Cash	195,016.24
Total Assets	195,016.24
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY	
Liabilities:	
Warrants Payable	16,547.39
Total Liabilities	16,547.39
Fund Equity:	
Reserve for Expenditures	128,821.00
Retained Earnings	49,647.85
Total Fund Equity	178,468.85
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	195,016.24

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Expendable Trust Funds
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2002

ASSETS	
Cash	789,517.75
Total Assets	789,517.75
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY	
Liabilities:	
Warrants Payable	1,981.50
Total Liabilities	1,981.50
Fund Equity:	
Fund Balances:	
Reserved	787,536.25
Total Fund Equity	787,536.25
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	789,517.75

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Non-Expendable Trust Fund
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2002

ASSETS	
Cash	661,523.34
Total Assets	661,523.34
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY	
Fund Balances:	
Reserved	661,523.34
Total Fund Balance	661,523.34
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	661,523.34

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Long Term Debt Group
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2002

	SPED Loan of 2001	High School 2001	Daigle Well Loan	School Construction Loan-'92	Elementary School Loan '96	Sewer G. Hannum MWPAT	WWTP Upgrade/Exp MWPAT	Sewer Stadler St. MWPAT	Sewer Springfield Rd MWPAT	Sewer Pine Valley MWPAT	Septic Loan MWPAT	Sr. Center Loan	Unfunded Vacation Leave	Unfunded Sick Leave	Totals (Memo. Only)
ASSETS															
Amt to be Provided for Pmt of Debt	128,000.00	32,351,800.00	371,000.00	835,000.00	7,050,000.00	20,889.00	7,529,400.00	470,666.00	560,599.00	1,186,551.00	75,000.00	888,200.00			51,467,105.00
Amt to be Provided for Compensated Bal.													381,600.46	1,645,883.14	2,027,483.60
Total Assets	128,000.00	32,351,800.00	371,000.00	835,000.00	7,050,000.00	20,889.00	7,529,400.00	470,666.00	560,599.00	1,186,551.00	75,000.00	888,200.00	381,600.46	1,645,883.14	53,494,588.60
LIABILITIES															
Bond Indebtedness	128,000.00	32,351,800.00	371,000.00	835,000.00	7,050,000.00	20,889.00	7,529,400.00	470,666.00	560,599.00	1,186,551.00	75,000.00	888,200.00			51,467,105.00
Compensated Absences													381,600.46	1,645,883.14	2,027,483.60
Total Liabilities	128,000.00	32,351,800.00	371,000.00	835,000.00	7,050,000.00	20,889.00	7,529,400.00	470,666.00	560,599.00	1,186,551.00	75,000.00	888,200.00	381,600.46	1,645,883.14	53,494,588.60

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2002

	GENERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS			ENTERPRISE FUNDS		FIDUCIARY TYPE	TOTALS
	General Fund	Special Rev.	Capital Funds	Sewer	Landfill	Expendable Trusts	(Memo. Only)
Revenue:							
Taxes	12,889,752.26						12,889,752.26
State Receipts	11,268,739.22						11,268,739.22
Excise Taxes	1,207,364.85						1,207,364.85
Tax Liens	142,496.97						142,496.97
Lieu Taxes	196,168.50						196,168.50
Licenses & Permits	173,810.70						173,810.70
Special Assessments	46,110.19						46,110.19
Interest	661,047.56	3,465.27		36.52		39,796.37	704,345.72
Fines & Forfeits	62,671.00						62,671.00
Departmental Revenue	527,280.86	1,460,916.18		546,013.97	177,804.10	1,372.24	2,713,387.35
Fees	82,248.35						82,248.35
Off-Set Receipts	49,795.89						49,795.89
Rentals	53,343.09						53,343.09
Umass Transit	37,175.00						37,175.00
Other Miscellaneous	1,353.67	294,393.82					295,747.49
Grants		2,118,185.69					2,118,185.69
Performance Guarantees		1,500.00					1,500.00
Gifts		183,214.50					183,214.50
Temporary Loans		267,000.00	6,976,925.00				7,243,925.00
MWPAT			150,076.00				150,076.00
Bond Proceeds			33,240,000.00				33,240,000.00
Total Revenues	27,399,358.11	4,328,675.46	40,367,001.00	546,050.49	177,804.10	41,168.61	72,860,057.77
Expenditures:							
General Government	1,156,728.26	85,805.75					1,242,534.01
Protection of Persons & Property	1,808,727.45	176,666.07					1,985,393.52
Education	17,528,172.68	1,990,837.86					19,519,010.54
Public Works	1,226,795.16	692,082.03		417,291.21	220,192.72	1,981.50	2,558,342.62
Human Services	424,820.39	198,880.24				25,061.55	648,762.18

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2002

	GENERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS			ENTERPRISE FUNDS		FIDUCIARY TYPE	TOTALS
	General Fund	Special Rev.	Capital Funds	Sewer	Landfill	Expendable Trusts	(Memo. Only)
Expenditures (continued):							
Insurance & Unclassified	1,504,341.70						1,504,341.70
Debt & Interest	2,054,635.56	333405		443,563.90			2,831,604.46
State Assessments	397,539.00						397,539.00
Prior Year Expenditures	470,366.60						470,366.60
Land Purchase		269,100.00				40,000.00	309,100.00
Construction			12,168,010.96				12,168,010.96
Equipment			6,240.08				6,240.08
Temporary Loan			36,781,050.00				36,781,050.00
Total Expenditures	27,090,578.26	4,019,970.34	48,955,301.04	860,855.11	220,192.72	67,043.05	81,213,940.52
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	308,779.85	308,705.12	(8,588,300.04)	(314,804.62)	(42,388.62)	(25,874.44)	(8,353,882.75)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):							
Operating Transfers In	650,053.70	6,159.00	58,163.13	436,783.00	47,036.00	362,000.00	1,560,194.83
Operating Transfers Out	910,141.13	450,053.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,000.00	1,560,194.83
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	(260,087.43)	(443,894.70)	58,163.13	436,783.00	47,036.00	162,000.00	0.00
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Fin. Uses	48,692.42	(135,189.58)	(8,530,136.91)	121,978.38	4,647.38	136,125.56	(8,353,882.75)
Fund Balance 7-1-01	2,415,779.82	1,376,601.36	13,704,071.88	155,093.99	173,821.47	651,410.69	18,476,779.21
Fund Balance 6-30-02	2,464,472.24	1,241,411.78	5,173,934.97	277,072.37	178,468.85	787,536.25	10,122,896.46

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
General Fund
Statement of Revenue, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2002

	Budget	Transfers	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:				
Taxes	12,812,350.06		12,889,752.26	77,402.20
State Receipts	11,270,692.00		11,268,739.22	(1,952.78)
Excise Taxes	1,076,500.00		1,207,364.85	130,864.85
Tax Liens	0.00		142,496.97	142,496.97
Lieu Taxes	170,000.00		196,168.50	26,168.50
Licenses & Permits	190,000.00		173,810.70	(16,189.30)
Special Assessments	35,000.00		46,110.19	11,110.19
Interest	400,000.00		661,047.56	261,047.56
Fines & Forfeits	50,000.00		62,671.00	12,671.00
Departmental Revenue	443,500.00		527,280.86	83,780.86
Fees	500.00		82,248.35	81,748.35
Off-Set Receipts	45,000.00		49,795.89	4,795.89
Rentals	36,500.00		53,343.09	16,843.09
Umass Transit	25,000.00		37,175.00	12,175.00
Other (Misc.)	0.00		1,353.67	1,353.67
Total Revenues	26,555,042.06	0.00	27,399,358.11	844,316.05
Expenditures:				
General Government	1,222,138.20	(26,841.00)	1,156,728.26	38,568.94
Protection of Persons & Property	1,955,105.00		1,808,727.45	146,377.55
Education	17,552,773.00		17,528,172.68	24,600.32
Public Works	1,261,378.00	8,490.00	1,226,795.16	43,072.84
Human Services	479,159.79	300.00	424,820.39	54,639.40
Culture & Recreation	529,423.00		518,451.46	10,971.54
Insurance & Unclassified	1,537,606.00	7,626.00	1,504,341.70	40,890.30
Debt & Interest	2,106,962.00		2,054,635.56	52,326.44
State Assessments	112,229.00		397,539.00	(285,310.00)
Prior Year Expenditures	605,120.03	(20,000.00)	470,366.60	114,753.43
Total Expenditures	27,361,894.02	(30,425.00)	27,090,578.26	240,890.76
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures			308,779.85	
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Operating Transfers In	203,500.00	0.00	650,053.70	
Operating Transfers Out	959,620.13	0.00	910,141.13	
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	(756,120.13)	0.00	(260,087.43)	
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Financing Uses			48,692.42	
Fund Balance 7/1/01			2,415,779.82	
Fund Balance 6/30/02			2,464,472.24	

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2002

	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY03
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
Moderator	$25.00		$25.00	$0.00	
Selectmen	$25,416.00		$22,209.29	$3,206.71	
Town Administrator	$141,512.00		$140,185.72	$1,326.28	
Cable Access TV Operations	$1,550.00		$1,550.00	$0.00	
Finance Committee	$527.00		$240.55	$286.45	
Reserve Fund	$30,000.00	($26,841.00)	$0.00	$3,159.00	
Town Accountant	$134,702.00		$134,440.53	$261.47	
MIS Director	$149,717.00		$147,265.50	$2,451.50	
Assessors	$205,971.00		$197,609.36	$8,361.64	$7,000.00
Treasurer/Collector	$198,059.00		$194,500.45	$3,558.55	
Law Account	$81,300.00		$79,995.40	$1,304.60	
Town Clerk	$73,061.00		$72,764.12	$296.88	
Election & Registration	$28,060.00		$25,309.11	$2,750.89	
Conservation Commission	$56,280.00		$51,639.71	$4,640.29	
Pioneer Valley Planning	$1,945.20		$1,945.20	$0.00	
Planning Board	$82,925.00		$79,560.36	$3,364.64	$2,210.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	$4,388.00		$1,997.34	$2,390.66	
EDIC	$2,500.00		$2,271.13	$228.87	
Mobile Home Rent Control	$200.00		$0.00	$200.00	
Printing Town Report	$4,000.00		$3,219.49	$780.51	
	$1,222,138.20	($26,841.00)	$1,156,728.26	$38,568.94	$9,210.00
PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY					
Police Department	$1,271,879.00		$1,164,404.71	$107,474.29	
Fire Department	$256,085.00		$242,026.69	$14,058.31	
Hydrant Service	$20,015.00		$20,014.40	$0.60	
EMS	$264,140.00		$262,497.17	$1,642.83	
Injured on Duty	$6,000.00		$3,181.97	$2,818.03	
Inspection Services	$117,230.00		$98,430.30	$18,799.70	
Civil Defense	$1,670.00		$1,668.10	$1.90	
Dog Officer	$18,086.00		$16,504.11	$1,581.89	
	$1,955,105.00	$0.00	$1,808,727.45	$146,377.55	$0.00
EDUCATION					
Town Schools	$16,603,676.00		$16,579,075.68	$24,600.32	$19,420.50
Regional School	$949,097.00		$949,097.00	$0.00	
	$17,552,773.00	$0.00	$17,528,172.68	$24,600.32	$19,420.50

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2002

PUBLIC WORKS	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY03
Personal Services	$462,335.00		$440,056.74	$22,278.26	
Professional Engineering	$10,500.00		$10,373.11	$126.89	
Administration	$4,175.00	$425.00	$4,595.60	$4.40	
Snow & Ice Control	$92,850.00		$92,768.07	$81.93	
Street Lighting	$30,000.00		$28,102.52	$1,897.48	
Road Machinery	$64,700.00		$61,811.07	$2,888.93	
Streets/Construction/Maint.	$67,300.00		$67,300.00	$0.00	
Town Garage	$13,590.00	$680.00	$14,244.83	$25.17	
Hired Services	$50,800.00		$50,797.29	$2.71	
Maintenance/Grounds	$260,742.00		$248,388.01	$12,353.99	$734.00
Lawrence Memorial Hall	$31,590.00	$6,350.00	$37,904.02	$35.98	
Finnerty House	$4,650.00		$4,390.36	$259.64	
EMS Building	$11,850.00		$11,839.54	$10.46	
Police Station	$40,950.00		$40,352.43	$597.57	
Senior Center Building	$38,838.00		$38,663.00	$175.00	
Recreation Building	$15,710.00		$15,536.60	$173.40	
Freedom Center	$10,340.00	$1,035.00	$11,371.54	$3.46	
Meadow Building	$10,000.00		$9,687.59	$312.41	
Old Town Hall	$6,034.00		$5,477.26	$556.74	
Town Common	$1,850.00		$1,717.58	$132.42	
Town Clock	$600.00		$600.00	$0.00	
Cemetery Department	$31,974.00		$30,818.00	$1,156.00	$1,100.00
	$1,261,378.00	$8,490.00	$1,226,795.16	$43,072.84	$1,834.00

HUMAN SERVICES	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY03
Board of Health	$25,640.00		$14,324.65	$11,315.35	
Quabbin Health District	$96,498.79		$96,498.79	$0.00	
Council on Aging	$301,496.00		$261,150.93	$40,345.07	$498.69
Veterans' Services	$55,525.00	$300.00	$52,846.02	$2,978.98	
	$479,159.79	$300.00	$424,820.39	$54,639.40	$498.69

CULTURE & RECREATION	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY03
Clapp Memorial Library	$256,482.00		$246,943.26	$9,538.74	
Recreation Department	$140,838.00		$140,819.66	$18.34	
Recreation - Pool	$73,884.00		$73,884.00	$0.00	
Teen Center Operating	$38,716.00		$37,829.80	$886.20	
Town Beach	$18,355.00		$18,339.03	$15.97	
Historical Commission	$500.00		$300.71	$199.29	
Historic District	$348.00		$335.00	$13.00	
Patriotic Exercises	$300.00		$0.00	$300.00	
	$529,423.00	$0.00	$518,451.46	$10,971.54	$0.00

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2002

	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY03
INSURANCE & UNCLASSIFIED					
Unclassified	$44,100.00		$43,791.38	$308.62	
Council of Governments	$62,636.00		$62,636.00	$0.00	
Pensions	$738,284.00	$4,792.00	$743,074.27	$1.73	
Workers' Compensation	$36,203.00		$31,208.35	$4,994.65	
Unemployment	$5,200.00	$534.00	$5,733.14	$0.86	
Health Insurance-Town Share	$420,800.00		$420,724.56	$75.44	
Group Life-Town Share	$6,000.00		$3,085.26	$2,914.74	
Medicare-Town Share	$40,800.00	$2,300.00	$43,078.72	$21.28	
General Insurance	$139,783.00		$139,110.79	$672.21	
Capital 2002	$43,800.00		$11,899.23	$31,900.77	$31,375.77
	$1,537,606.00	$7,626.00	$1,504,341.70	$40,890.30	$31,375.77
DEBT & INTEREST					
Maturing Debt	$1,078,325.00		$1,078,325.00	$0.00	
Interest	$1,028,637.00		$1,028,635.56	$1.44	
	$2,106,962.00	$0.00	$2,106,960.56	$1.44	$0.00
ENCUMBERED FUNDS					
General Government	$1,250.00		$0.00	$1,250.00	$1,250.00
Protection of Persons & Prop.	$250.00		$0.00	$250.00	
School Department	$15,587.76		$14,241.86	$1,345.90	
Public Works	$3,176.69		$3,176.69	$0.00	
Human Services	$1,600.00		$1,600.00	$0.00	
Insurance & Unclassified	$534,861.61		$422,954.08	$111,907.53	$109,254.78
B.S.S. Infrastructure	$28,393.97		$28,393.97	$0.00	
Development Rights	$20,000.00	($20,000.00)	$0.00	$0.00	
	$605,120.03	($20,000.00)	$470,366.60	$114,753.43	$110,504.78

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2002

	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY03
SUMMARY					
General Government	$1,222,138.20	($26,841.00)	$1,156,728.26	$38,568.94	$9,210.00
Protection of Persons/Property	$1,955,105.00	$0.00	$1,808,727.45	$146,377.55	$0.00
Education	$17,552,773.00	$0.00	$17,528,172.68	$24,600.32	$19,420.50
Public Works	$1,261,378.00	$8,490.00	$1,226,795.16	$43,072.84	$1,834.00
Human Services	$479,159.79	$300.00	$424,820.39	$54,639.40	$498.69
Culture & Recreation	$529,423.00	$0.00	$518,451.46	$10,971.54	$0.00
Insurance & Unclassified	$1,537,606.00	$7,626.00	$1,504,341.70	$40,890.30	$31,375.77
Debt & Interest	$2,106,962.00	$0.00	$2,106,960.56	$1.44	$0.00
	$26,644,544.99	($10,425.00)	$26,274,997.66	$359,122.33	$62,338.96
Encumbered Funds	$605,120.03	($20,000.00)	$470,366.60	$114,753.43	$110,504.78
TOTALS	$27,249,665.02	($30,425.00)	$26,745,364.26	$473,875.76	$172,843.74

*Reserve Fund transfer to Landfill Enterprise Encumbered Account voted at town meeting

Special Revenue Fund

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance

for Period Ended June 30, 2002

		GRANTS						
	Highways	Federal	State	School Lunch	School Revolvings	Departmental	Agency Funds	Totals (Memo Only)
Revenues:								
Grants	572,294.47	791,262.86	586,583.88	119,724.11		48,320.37		2,118,185.69
Collections & Fees		44,747.25	14,952.50	416,601.83	103,981.26	778,339.07	102,294.27	1,460,916.18
Interest			385.69			670.70	2,408.88	3,465.27
Performance Guarantees							1,500.00	1,500.00
Gifts		724.12				182,490.38		183,214.50
Temporary Loans	59,600.00		207,400.00					267,000.00
Other							294,393.82	294,393.82
Total Revenues	631,894.47	836,734.23	809,322.07	536,325.94	103,981.26	1,009,820.52	400,596.97	4,328,675.46
Expenditures:								
General Government						56,613.50	29,192.25	85,805.75
Protection of Persons & Property		41,285.56	33,143.70			41,112.55	61,124.26	176,666.07
Education		624,093.09	360,289.79	551,132.94	99,066.14	52,917.02	303,338.88	1,990,837.86
Department of Public Works	595,172.35		8,595.40			72,314.28	16,000.00	692,082.03
Human Services		169,057.97	18,547.81			9,496.96	1,777.50	198,880.24
Culture & Recreation			38,935.45			234,257.94		273,193.39
Land Purchase			207,400.00			61,700.00		269,100.00
Debt & Interest						333,405.00		333,405.00
Total Expenditures	595,172.35	834,436.62	666,912.15	551,132.94	99,066.14	861,817.25	411,432.89	4,019,970.34
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	36,722.12	2,297.61	142,409.92	(14,807.00)	4,915.12	148,003.27	(10,835.92)	308,705.12
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Operating Transfers In		3,659.00					2,500.00	6,159.00
Operating Transfers Out		0.99	1,657.75			447,484.85	910.11	450,053.70
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	0.00	3,658.01	(1,657.75)	0.00	0.00	(447,484.85)	1,589.89	(443,894.70)

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Special Revenue Fund
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2002

	Highways	GRANTS			School Revolvings	Departmental	Agency Funds	Totals (Memo Only)
		Federal	State	School Lunch				
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Financ. Uses	36,722.12	5,955.62	140,752.17	(14,807.00)	4,915.12	(299,481.58)	(9,246.03)	(135,189.58)
Balance 7-1-01	(27,343.85)	(14,009.83)	178,809.82	44,358.07	67,535.74	925,829.05	201,422.36	1,376,601.36
Balance 6-30-02	9,378.27	(8,054.21)	319,561.99	29,551.07	72,450.86	626,347.47	192,176.33	1,241,411.78

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Capital Projects Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2002

	High School	Health Title V	Police Station/ Sr. Center	Fire Station	WWTP & Other Sewer	Health Grant	Old Sewer Project	Totals (Memo. Only)
Revenues:								
MWPAT					150,076.00			$150,076.00
Temporary Loans	4,900,000.00		940,525.00		1,136,400.00			$6,976,925.00
Bond Proceeds	32,351,800.00		888,200.00					$33,240,000.00
Total Revenue	37,251,800.00	0.00	1,828,725.00	0.00	1,286,476.00	0.00	0.00	$40,367,001.00
Expenditures:								
Construction	$10,995,535.63		$66,765.45		$1,105,709.88			$12,168,010.96
Equipment				$6,240.08				$6,240.08
Temporary Loans	$34,900,000.00		$1,881,050.00					$36,781,050.00
Total Expenditures	$45,895,535.63	$0.00	$1,947,815.45	$6,240.08	$1,105,709.88	$0.00	$0.00	$48,955,301.04
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	($8,643,735.63)	$0.00	($119,090.45)	($6,240.08)	$180,766.12	$0.00	$0.00	($8,588,300.04)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Operating Transfers In			$52,325.00				$5,838.13	$58,163.13
Operation Transfers Out								
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	$0.00	$0.00	$52,325.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$5,838.13	$58,163.13
Excess Revenues & Other Finan. Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Finan. Uses	($8,643,735.63)	$0.00	($66,765.45)	($6,240.08)	$180,766.12	$0.00	$5,838.13	($8,530,136.91)
Fund Balance 7-1-01	$12,902,550.78	$3,583.00	$131,772.71	$7,412.67	$651,867.55	$12,723.30	($5,838.13)	$13,704,071.88
Fund Balance 6-30-02	$4,258,815.15	$3,583.00	$65,007.26	$1,172.59	$832,633.67	$12,723.30	$0.00	$5,173,934.97

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Sewer Enterprise Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for the Period Ended June 30, 2002

	Budget	Transfers	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenue:				
User Fees	450,000.00		524,450.97	74,450.97
Sewer Connections	10,000.00		17,000.00	7,000.00
Interest	0.00		36.52	36.52
Dumping Fees	0.00		4,563.00	4,563.00
Total Revenue	460,000.00	0.00	546,050.49	86,050.49
Expenditures:				
Environmental	437,806.00		417,291.21	20,514.79
Debt & Interest	458,977.00		443,563.90	15,413.10
Total Expenditures	896,783.00	0.00	860,855.11	35,927.89
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures			(314,804.62)	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Operating Transfers In	436,783.00		436,783.00	0.00
Operating Transfers Out	0.00		0.00	0.00
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	436,783.00	0.00	436,783.00	0.00
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing (Uses)			121,978.38	
Fund Balance 7/1/01			155,093.99	
Fund Balance 6/30/02			277,072.37	

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Landfill Enterprise Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ending June 30, 2002

	Budget	Transfers	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenue:				
User Fees	140,000.00		177,804.10	37,804.10
Sale of Recycling	1,000.00		0.00	(1,000.00)
Total Revenue	141,000.00	0.00	177,804.10	36,804.10
Expenditures:				
Environmental	210,611.00		208,192.72	2,418.28
Hazardous Waste	12,000.00		12,000.00	0.00
Total Expenditures	222,611.00	0.00	220,192.72	2,418.28
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures			(42,388.62)	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Operating Transfers In	36,611.00		47,036.00	10,425.00
Operating Transfers Out	0.00		0.00	0.00
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	36,611.00	0.00	47,036.00	10,425.00
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing (Uses)			4,647.38	
Fund Balance 7/1/01			173,821.47	
Fund Balance 6/30/02			178,468.85	

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Expendable Trust Funds
Statement of Changes in Fund Balance
For Period Ended June 30, 2002

	Balance 7/1/2001	Additions	Income	Expended	Transferred In/(Out)	Reserved	Undesignated Fund Balance	Balance 6/30/2002
Poor Funds:								
Susan M. D. Bridgman	$122,804.66		$24,481.34	$22,897.83			$124,388.17	$124,388.17
Whiting Street	$40,590.00		$978.39	$1,779.00			$39,789.39	$39,789.39
School Funds:								
George W. Longley Music	$3,529.44		$108.68				$3,638.12	$3,638.12
Calvin Bridgman High School	$10,407.42		$322.46				$10,729.88	$10,729.88
Library Fund:								
Calvin Bridgman Library	$657.28		$91.55				$748.83	$748.83
Town Clock Fund:								
Fank Scialla Memorial	$2,972.42		$99.70	$499.50			$2,572.62	$2,572.62
Senior Center Fund:								
Senior Center Memorial	$2,781.33		$268.63				$3,049.96	$3,049.96
Cemetery Funds:								
Perpetual Care	$21,479.93		$2,908.44	$1,482.00			$22,906.37	$22,906.37
Susan M.D. Bridgman	$1,062.29		$24.81				$1,087.10	$1,087.10
Nellie E. Brown	$3,608.94		$89.18	$384.72			$3,313.40	$3,313.40
Willard Stebbins	$1,436.30		$68.25				$1,504.55	$1,504.55
Vianna E. Somes	$1,955.43		$44.32				$1,999.75	$1,999.75
E. Schmidt Memorial	$264.90	$1,372.24				$1,637.14	($0.00)	$1,637.14
Penson Fund	$13,391.48		$594.90				$13,986.38	$13,986.38
Conservation Fund	$905.19	$40,000.00	$416.79	$40,000.00			$1,321.98	$1,321.98
Stabilization Fund	$378,264.06	$300,000.00	$8,101.06		($200,000.00)	$200,000.00	$286,365.12	$486,365.12
Workers' Compensation Fund	$45,299.62	$22,000.00	$1,197.87				$68,497.49	$68,497.49
	$651,410.69	$363,372.24	$39,796.37	$67,043.05	($200,000.00)	$201,637.14	$585,899.11	$787,536.25

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Non-Expendable Trust Funds
Statement of Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2002

	Balance 7/1/2001	Additions	Balance 6/30/2002
Poor Funds:			
Susan M. D. Bridgman	512,860.69		512,860.69
Whiting Street	10,000.00		10,000.00
School Funds:			
George W. Longley Music	2,000.00		2,000.00
Calvin Bridgman High School	6,000.00		6,000.00
Library Fund:			
Calvin Bridgman Library	4,000.00		4,000.00
Town Clock Fund:			
Fank Scialla Memorial	2,100.00		2,100.00
Senior Center Fund:			
Senior Center Memorial	10,875.51		10,875.51
Penson Fund:			
Pensions	10,000.00		10,000.00
Cemetery Funds:			
Perpetual Care	93,587.14	7,100.00	100,687.14
Susan M. D. Bridgman	200.00		200.00
Nellie E. Brown	1,000.00		1,000.00
Willard Stebbins	1,500.00		1,500.00
Vianna E. Somes	300.00		300.00
	654,423.34	7,100.00	661,523.34

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Non-Expendable Trust Funds
Statement of Changes in Financial Position
for Period Ended June 30, 2002

Sources of Working Capital:	
Operations:	
Net Income	7,100.00
Net Income in Working Capital	7,100.00
Elements of New Increase in Working Capital	
Investment	7,100.00

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Schedule of Indebtedness
June 30, 2002

	Loan Issued	Rate	Outstanding 7/1/2001	Reduced FY2002	Outstanding 6/30/2002	Due In FY2003
Daigle Well Water Loan	1994	5.00	402,000.00	31,000.00	371,000.00	31,000.00
School Loans:						
Middle School	1992	4.55	1,285,000.00	450,000.00	835,000.00	425,000.00
Elementary	1996	4.87	7,595,000.00	545,000.00	7,050,000.00	575,000.00
High School	2002	4.50	0.00	0.00	32,351,800.00	1,621,800.00
Buildings:						
Sr. Center	2002	4.50	0.00	0.00	888,200.00	63,200.00
Sewer Loans:						
Relining Loan	1995	0.00	30,970.00	10,081.00	20,889.00	7,935.00
WWTP	1999	0.00	7,897,000.00	367,600.00	7,529,400.00	309,873.00
Stadler Street	1999	0.00	491,311.00	20,645.00	470,666.00	16,914.00
Springfield Road	1999	0.00	585,240.00	24,641.00	560,599.00	20,172.00
Pine Valley	1999	0.00	1,238,779.00	52,228.00	1,186,551.00	42,685.00
Board of Health: Title V	1999	0.00	75,000.00	0.00	75,000.00	3,750.00
Schools:						
SPED Loan	2001	0.00	160,000.00	32,000.00	128,000.00	32,000.00
			19,760,300.00	1,533,195.00	51,467,105.00	3,149,329.00

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts

Amortization Schedule
June 30, 2002

	Principal	Interest	Total
2003	3,236,125.00	2,355,813.42	5,591,938.42
2004	3,255,049.00	2,238,613.28	5,493,662.28
2005	2,873,527.00	2,096,664.35	4,970,191.35
2006	2,647,840.00	1,962,909.91	4,610,749.91
2007	2,652,767.00	1,836,161.08	4,488,928.08
2008	2,687,564.00	1,704,809.60	4,392,373.60
2009	2,720,886.00	1,573,236.19	4,294,122.19
2010	2,764,875.00	1,455,998.56	4,220,873.56
2011	2,807,266.00	1,334,031.71	4,141,297.71
2012	2,850,966.00	1,209,435.51	4,060,401.51
2013	2,663,366.00	1,312,033.43	3,975,399.43
2014	2,943,366.00	973,110.50	3,916,476.50
2015	2,957,966.00	824,496.13	3,782,462.13
2016	2,323,166.00	683,480.63	3,006,646.63
2017	2,338,666.00	574,115.94	2,912,781.94
2018	2,359,366.00	455,473.75	2,814,839.75
2019	2,380,166.00	336,087.50	2,716,253.50
2020	1,774,178.00	234,400.00	2,008,578.00
2021	1,615,000.00	153,425.00	1,768,425.00
2022	1,615,000.00	76,712.50	1,691,712.50
	51,467,105.00	23,391,008.99	74,858,113.99

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER
JULY 1, 2001 - JUNE 30,2002

CASH ON HAND 6/30/2001	$ 20,554,426.30	PAYMENTS AS AUTHORIZED	$ 85,670,996.87
RECEIPTS	$ 77,784,448.88	CASH ON HAND 6/30/2002	$ 12,667,878.31
	$ 98,338,875.18		$ 98,338,875.18

INTEREST INCOME FROM SAVINGS DEPOSITS, INVESTMENTS, BUT EXCLUDING TRUST FUNDS, SPECIAL ACCTS & STABILIZATION FUND $ 411,658.95

TRUST FUNDS AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNT	BALANCE 6/30/2001	DEPOSITS	INTEREST & DIVIDENDS	TRANSFERS&W/D	BALANCE 6/30/2002
SCHOOL FUNDS					
C. BRIDGMAN (H.S.)	$ 16,407.42		$ 322.46		$ 16,729.88
GEORGE LONGLEY	$ 5,529.44		$ 108.68		$ 5,638.12
CEMETERY FUNDS					
SUSAN BRIDGMAN	$ 1,262.29		$ 24.81		$ 1,287.10
WILLARD STEBBINS	$ 6,536.30		$ 68.25	$ (3,600.00)	$ 3,004.55
VIANNA SOMES	$ 2,255.43		$ 44.32		$ 2,299.75
NELLIE BROWN	$ 4,648.94		$ 87.46	$ (424.72)	$ 4,311.68
PERPETUAL CARE	$ 12,963.44	$ 8,300.00	$ 421.71	$ (1,200.00)	$ 20,485.15
PERPETUAL CARE (MMDT)	$ 101,998.05		$ 2,594.03		$ 104,592.08
POOR FUNDS					
SUSAN BRIDGMAN	$ 59,869.44		$ 804.34	$ (30,765.94)	$ 29,907.84
WHITING STREET	$ 50,590.00		$ 978.39	$ (1,779.00)	$ 49,789.39
S. BRIDGMAN (STOCK INVESTMENT)	$ 583,664.02		$ 23,677.00		$ 607,341.02
MISC FUNDS					
F. SCIALLA (CLOCK)	$ 5,072.42		$ 99.70		$ 5,172.12
C. BRIDGMAN (LIBRARY)	$ 4,657.28		$ 91.55		$ 4,748.83
CONSERVATION	$ 2,185.19	$ 40,000.00	$ 416.79	$ (41,280.00)	$ 1,321.98
SENIOR CENTER	$ 13,710.68		$ 268.63	$ (53.84)	$ 13,925.47
PENSION RESERVE	$ 23,391.48		$ 594.90		$ 23,986.38
STABILIZATION FUND	$ 378,264.06	$ 300,000.00	$ 8,101.06	$ (200,000.00)	$ 486,365.12
WORKERS COMPENSATION TRUST	$ 23,299.62	$ 44,000.00	$ 1,197.87		$ 68,497.49
TOTALS	$ 1,296,305.50	$ 392,300.00	$ 39,901.95	$ (279,103.50)	$ 1,449,403.95

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER
JULY 1, 2001 - JUNE 30,2002

FUNDS BORROWED DURING THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2001 - JUNE 30, 2002

NOTE# & PURPOSE	FROM	DATED	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	INTEREST RATE
#957 RENEWAL- SR. CENTER & POLICE STATION	BANK WESTERN MASS	8/28/2001	$ 940,525.00	PAID 1/25/2002	3.09%
RENEWAL- HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BAN	TGH SECURITIES	10/11/2001	$4,900,000.00	PAID 1/25/2002	3.00%
BOND HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION	MORGAN STANLEY	1/25/2002	$33,240,000.00	1/15/2022	4.45%
#958-1 STATE ANTICIPATION - REED PROP GRANT	BANK WESTERN MASS	6/27/2002	$ 207,400.00	9/25/2002	2.13%
#959-1 BAN TRI-LAKES SEWER	BANK WESTERN MASS	6/27/2002	$ 567,000.00	5/23/2003	2.18%
#960-1 BAN F.H.A. SEWER LOAN	BANK WESTERN MASS	6/27/2002	$ 569,400.00	12/24/2002	2.14%
#961-1 STATE ANTICIPATION - CHAPTER 90	BANK WESTERN MASS	6/27/2002	$ 59,600.00	9/25/2002	2.13%

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

William R. Barnett

WILLIAM R. BARNETT
TOWN TREASURER

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
TOWN / TAX COLLECTOR
REPORT
7/1/2001 - 6/30/2002

FISCAL 1975 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 101.20
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 101.20	
	$ 101.20	$ 101.20

FISCAL 1976 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 234.60
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 234.60	
	$ 234.60	$ 234.60

FISCAL 1979 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 891.48
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 891.48	
	$ 891.48	$ 891.48

FISCAL 1980 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 957.60
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 957.60	
	$ 957.60	$ 957.60

FISCAL 1981 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 792.40
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 792.40	
	$ 792.40	$ 792.40

FISCAL 1982 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 1,163.14
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 1,163.14	
	$ 1,163.14	$ 1,163.14

FISCAL 1984 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 72.59
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 72.59	
	$ 72.59	$ 72.59

ISCAL 1988 REAL ESTATE

UTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 64.25
CCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 0.11
OLLECTED	$ -	
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 64.36	
	$ 64.36	$ 64.36

FISCAL 1989 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 100.94
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ (0.01)
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 100.93	
	$ 100.93	$ 100.93

FISCAL 1990 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 157.44
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ (44.97)
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 112.47	
	$ 112.47	$ 112.47

FISCAL 1991 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 271.59
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 42.51
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 314.10	
	$ 314.10	$ 314.10

FISCAL 1992 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 132.36
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 19.21
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 151.57	
	$ 151.57	$ 151.57

FISCAL 1993 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 786.01
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 927.80
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 1,713.81	
	$ 1,713.81	$ 1,713.81

FISCAL 1994 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 1,295.74
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ (53.50)
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 1,242.24	
	$ 1,242.24	$ 1,242.24

FISCAL 1995 REAL ESTATE

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 2,083.89
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ (847.30)
COLLECTED	$ 6.11	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 1,230.48	
	$ 1,236.59	$ 1,236.59

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
TOWN / TAX COLLECTOR
REPORT
7/1/2001 - 6/30/2002

FISCAL 1996 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 4,733.21
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 890.39
TO TAX TITLE	$ 1,447.11	
COLLECTED	$ 3,428.39	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 748.40	
	$ 5,623.90	$ 5,623.60

FISCAL 1997 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 13,063.69
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ (74.93)
TO TAX TITLE	$ 7,250.68	
COLLECTED	$ 1,130.04	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 4,608.04	
	$ 12,988.76	$ 12,988.76

FISCAL 1998 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 62,402.39
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 293.79
TO TAX TITLE	$ 22,296.45	
COLLECTED	$ 36,156.00	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 4,243.73	
	$ 62,696.18	$ 62,696.18

FISCAL 1999 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 104,093.87
TAX TITLE	$ 35,043.05	
COLLECTED	$ 55,950.52	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 13,100.30	
	$ 104,093.87	$ 104,093.87

FISCAL 2000 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 215,132.57
TO TAX TITLE	$ 116,908.33	
COLLECTED	$ 76,833.49	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 21,390.75	
	$ 215,132.57	$ 215,132.57

FISCAL 2001 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 433,345.61
REFUNDED		$ 1,867.77
TO TAX TITLE	$ 156,647.02	
ABATED	$ 1,567.91	
COLLECTED	$ 205,553.26	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 71,445.19	
	$ 435,213.38	$ 435,213.38

FISCAL 2002 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 5,988,735.1
COMM. FOR COLLECTION		$ 6,646,733.8
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 21.8
REFUNDED		$ 40,254.6
ABATED	$ 45,677.67	
COLLECTED	$ 12,248,751.73	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 381,316.05	
	$ 12,675,745.45	$ 12,675,745.4

FISCAL 2003 REAL ESTATE		
COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 6,486,541.7
COLLECTED	$ 40,608.19	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 6,445,933.56	
	$ 6,486,541.75	$ 6,486,541.7

FISCAL 1988 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 328.6
ABATED	$ 328.64	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ -	
	$ 328.64	$ 328.6

FISCAL 1989 PERS.PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 421.9
ABATED	$ 421.94	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ -	
	$ 421.94	$ 421.9

FISCAL 1990 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 2,445.4
ABATED	$ 2,445.44	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ -	
	$ 2,445.44	$ 2,445.4

FISCAL 1991 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 1,211.4
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 1,211.49	
	$ 1,211.49	$ 1,211.4

FISCAL 1992 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 1,972.0
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 35.4
COLLECTED	$ 4.00	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 2,003.47	
	$ 2,007.47	$ 2,007.4

FISCAL 1993 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 3,728.2
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 96.9
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 3,825.23	$ 3,825.2

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
TOWN / TAX COLLECTOR
REPORT
7/1/2001 - 6/30/2002

FISCAL 1994 PERS. PROP		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 6,284.86
CCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 5.65
BATED	$ 11.94	
OLLECTED	$ 11.94	
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 6,266.63	
	$ 6,290.51	$ 6,290.51
ISCAL 1995 PERS. PROP		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 7,725.47
CCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ (5.97)
BATED	$ 12.22	
OLLECTED	$ 360.89	
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 7,346.39	
	$ 7,719.50	$ 7,719.50
ISCAL 1996 PERS. PROP		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 12,565.89
CCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ (11.25)
BATED	$ 19.64	
OLLECTED	$ 423.88	
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 12,111.12	
	$ 12,554.64	$ 12,554.64
SCAL 1997 PERS. PROP		
JTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 6,171.53
COUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 7.38
BATED	$ 20.59	
LLECTED	$ 13.73	
JTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 6,144.59	
	$ 6,178.91	$ 6,178.91
SCAL 1998 PERS.PROP		
JTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 4,333.48
COUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 19.74
ATED	$ 14.05	
LLECTED	$ -	
TSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 4,339.17	
	$ 4,353.22	$ 4,353.22
CAL 1999 PERS. PROP		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 4,422.68
COUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ (17.59)
ATED	$ 14.27	
LLECTED	$ 105.25	
TSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 4,285.57	
	$ 4,405.09	$ 4,405.09
CAL 2000 PERS. PROP		
TSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 2,307.31
TED	$ 5.39	
LECTED	$ 263.48	
TSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 2,038.44	
	$ 2,307.31	$ 2,307.31
CAL 2001 PERS. PROP		
STANDING 6/30/2001		$ 6,147.33
TED	$ 30.09	
LECTED	$ 3,225.75	
STANDING 6/30/2002	$ 2,891.49	
	$ 6,147.33	$ 6,147.33

FISCAL 2002 PERS.PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 149,951.63
COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 144,688.07
REFUNDED		$ 831.63
ABATED	$ 96.39	
COLLECTED	$ 291,579.67	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 3,795.27	
	$ 295,471.33	$ 295,471.33
FISCAL 2003 PERS. PROP		
COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 145,619.00
COLLECTED	$ 27.76	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 145,591.24	
	$ 145,619.00	$ 145,619.00
1983 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 107.50
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 107.50	
	$ 107.50	$ 107.50
1984 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 148.50
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 148.50	
	$ 148.50	$ 148.50
1985 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 115.50
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 115.50	
	$ 115.50	$ 115.50
1986 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 59.00
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 59.00	
	$ 59.00	$ 59.00
1987 FARM ANIMAL EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 59.00
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 59.00	
	$ 59.00	$ 59.00
1988 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 279.00
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 279.00	
	$ 279.00	$ 279.00
1989 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 68.00
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 68.00	
	$ 68.00	$ 68.00

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
TOWN / TAX COLLECTOR
REPORT
7/1/2001 - 6/30/2002

1990 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 263.50
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 263.50	
	$ 263.50	$ 263.50

1991 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 246.50
ABATED	$ 140.50	
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 106.00	
	$ 246.50	$ 246.50

1992 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 230.50
ABATED	$ 156.50	
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 74.00	
	$ 230.50	$ 230.50

1993 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 1,146.38
COLLECTED	$ 17.25	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 1,129.13	
	$ 1,146.38	$ 1,146.38

1994 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 1,142.66
COLLECTED	$ 17.28	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 1,125.38	
	$ 1,142.66	$ 1,142.66

1995 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 171.00
COLLECTED	$ 17.25	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 153.75	
	$ 171.00	$ 171.00

1996 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 536.50
COLLECTED	$ 2.00	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 534.50	
	$ 536.50	$ 536.50

1997 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 160.50
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 160.50	
	$ 160.50	$ 160.50

1998 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 75.00
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 75.00	
	$ 75.00	$ 75.00

1999 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 172.00
COLLECTED	$ 94.00	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 78.00	
	$ 172.00	$ 172.00

2000 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 1,361.60
COLLECTED	$ 1,782.05	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 80.00	
	$ 1,862.05	$ 1,361.60

2001 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 1,701.59
COLLECTED	$ 1,307.46	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 394.13	
	$ 1,701.59	$ 1,701.59

1998 SEWER LIENS		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 492.39
COLLECTED	$ 492.39	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ -	
	$ 492.39	$ 492.39

1999 SEWER LIENS		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 591.93
COLLECTED	$ 591.93	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ -	
	$ 591.93	$ 591.93

2000 SEWER LIENS		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 8,375.91
TO TAX TITLE	$ 1,118.15	
COLLECTED	$ 2,826.52	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 4,431.24	
	$ 8,375.91	$ 8,375.91

2001 SEWER LIENS		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 5,730.39
TO TAX TITLE	$ 1,637.23	
COLLECTED	$ 2,893.78	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 1,199.38	
	$ 5,730.39	$ 5,730.39

2000 SEWER CHARGES SUBS: 2002 SEWER LIENS		
OUSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 39,734.35
COMMITTED FOR COLL		$ 3,780.41
REFUNDED		$ 245.71
COLLECTED	$ 37,083.75	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 6,676.72	
	$ 43,760.47	$ 43,760.47

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
TOWN / TAX COLLECTOR
REPORT
7/1/2001 - 6/30/2002

2001 SEWER CHARGES		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 102,083.30
COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 245,431.74
ABATED	$ 582.39	
COLLECTED	$ 319,817.52	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 27,115.13	
	$ 347,515.04	$ 347,515.04

2002 SEWER CHARGES		
COMM. FOR COLLECTION		$ 246,491.53
COLLECTED	$ 160,990.79	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 85,500.74	
	$ 246,491.53	$ 246,491.53

1994 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 6,648.57
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ (30.73)
COLLECTED	$ 131.05	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 6,486.79	
	$ 6,617.84	$ 6,617.84

1995 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 4,745.16
COLLECTED	$ 255.00	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 4,490.16	
	$ 4,745.16	$ 4,745.16

1996 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 6,136.29
COLLECTED	$ 523.96	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 5,612.33	
	$ 6,136.29	$ 6,136.29

1997 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 7,750.07
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 3.48
COLLECTED	$ 307.29	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 7,446.26	
	$ 7,753.55	$ 7,753.55

1998 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 7,861.30
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ (70.42)
COLLECTED	$ 1,024.73	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 6,766.15	
	$ 7,790.88	$ 7,790.88

1999 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 12,206.99
ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT		$ 92.50
COLLECTED	$ 3,735.54	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 8,563.95	
	$ 12,299.49	$ 12,299.49

2000 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 26,643.01
COMMITTED FOR COLL.		$ 12,918.41
REFUNDED		$ 512.31
ABATED	$ 2,325.44	
COLLECTED	$ 27,457.49	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 10,290.80	
	$ 40,073.73	$ 40,073.73

2001 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 72,348.18
COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 237,272.43
REFUNDED		$ 10,368.33
ABATED	$ 16,159.74	
COLLECTED	$ 276,761.27	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 27,067.93	
	$ 319,988.94	$ 319,988.94

2002 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
COMM. FOR COLLECTION		$ 1,074,323.59
REFUNDED		$ 6,724.79
ABATED	$ 30,944.28	
COLLECTED	$ 911,121.86	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 138,982.24	
	$ 1,081,048.38	$ 1,081,048.38

SEWER CONNECTIONS		
COMMITTED FOR COLL.		$ 16,000.00
COLLECTED	$ 16,000.00	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001	$ -	
	$ 16,000.00	$ 16,000.00

2000 DAIGLE WELL BETT.		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 500.08
TO TAX TITLE	$ 500.08	
COLLECTED	$ -	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ -	
	$ 500.08	$ 500.08

2001 DAIGLE WELL BETT.		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001		$ 1,599.41
TO TAX TITLE	$ 480.85	
COLLECTED	$ 987.31	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 131.25	
	$ 1,599.41	$ 1,599.41

2002 DAIGLE WELL BETT.		
COMM. FOR COLLECTION		$ 23,968.37
COLLECTED	$ 22,548.51	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ 1,419.86	
	$ 23,968.37	$ 23,968.37

BETTERMENT IN ADVANCE		
COMMITTED FOR COLL.		$ 19,834.89
COLLECTED	$ 19,834.89	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ -	
	$ 19,834.89	$ 19,834.89

2002 TITLE V LOAN		
COMM. FOR COLLECTION		$ 8,963.18
COLLECTED	$ 8,963.18	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ -	
	$ 8,963.18	$ 8,963.18

TITLE V LOAN IN ADVANCE		
COMM. FOR COLLECTION		$ 7,000.00
COLLECTED	$ 7,000.00	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$ -	
	$ 7,000.00	$ 7,000.00

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
TOWN / TAX COLLECTOR
REPORT
7/1/2001 - 6/30/2002

MISCELLANEOUS REC.				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001			$	64,270.39
COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	59,089.07
COLLECTED	$	68,620.17		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$	54,739.29		
	$	123,359.46	$	123,359.46

COMSTAR
AMBULANCE ACCOUNT

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2001			$	136,241.30
COMMITTED FOR COLL.			$	387,287.53
REFUNDED			$	590.00
ABATED	$	133,051.45		
COLLECTED	$	250,209.23		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	$	140,858.15		
	$	524,118.83	$	524,118.83

JULY 1,2001 - JUNE 30,2002

TOTAL COLLECTIONS	$	15,003,027.48
AMBULANCE ACCT	$	250,209.23
TOTAL	$	15,253,236.71

TAXES,LIENS,EXCISES	$	14,857,964.11
INTEREST/FEES	$	145,063.37
AMBULANCE ACCT	$	250,209.23
TOTAL	$	15,253,236.71

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

WILLIAM R. BARNETT
TOWN AND TAX COLLECTOR

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
VITAL STATISTICS

2001 Vital Statistics received after filing last year's report

BIRTHS

PLACE	MALE	FEMALE
Belchertown	1	
Northampton	1	3
Springfield	2	2
Ware		1

MARRIAGES

Marriage Intentions Filed in Belchertown

	MALE	FEMALE
Belchertown Residents	2	3
Non-Residents	1	

Married in Belchertown: 3

DEATHS

Males: 4 Females: 4
Belchertown Residents: 8

Place of Death	
Agawam	1
Springfield	5
Ware	2

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
VITAL STATISTICS

2002 STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Place	Male	Female
Belchertown	2	
Greenfield		1
Hadley		1
Holyoke	3	9
Springfield	35	34
Northampton	30	28
Ware	8	5
Worcester	3	
	81	78

MARRIAGES

Marriage Intentions Filed in Belchertown

	Male	Female
Belchertown Residents	35	40
Non-Residents	10	5
	45	45

Married in Belchertown: 26
Married Out-of-Town: 19

DEATHS

Males: 36 Females: 32
Belchertown Residents: 66
Non-Residents: 2

Place of Death		Place of Death	
Agawam	1	Palmer	2
Amherst	2	South Hadley	3
Belchertown	23	Springfield	12
Chicopee	1	Sunderland	1
Hadley	1	Ware	9
Holyoke	2	Wilbraham	3
Ludlow	1	Worcester	2
Northampton	5		

2002 TOWN CLERK FINANCIAL REPORT

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
B-M-D CERTIFIED COPY	435.00	340.00	330.00	215.00	260.00	265.00	305.00	365.00	370.00	275.00	140.00	379.00	3679.00
MARRIAGE INTENTIONS	10.00			80.00	60.00	90.00	60.00	60.00	40.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	460.00
POLE ORDERS	40.00	20.00	20.00			40.00	40.00	20.00		120.00	120.00	60.00	480.00
PARKING CITATIONS		100.00	100.00				100.00						300.00
DOG FINES	60.00	20.00	185.00		75.00		10.00	20.00					370.00
ZONING/SUBDIVISION BKS	150.00	50.00	20.00	120.00	75.00		100.00	175.00		100.00		50.00	840.00
PLANNING BOARD FEES	725.00	110.00	420.00	445.00	3900.00	500.00	4195.00	290.00	220.00	250.00	2000.00	235.00	13290.00
BOARD OF APPEALS	200.00		200.00	300.00	100.00		300.00	300.00	100.00	100.00		300.00	1900.00
FUEL/GAS REGISTRATION			22.50	7.50									30.00
BUSINESS REGISTRATION	50.00	30.00	270.00	470.00	160.00	120.00	150.00	60.00	70.00	130.00	80.00	40.00	1630.00
RAFFLE PERMITS		10.00	10.00		10.00	20.00	10.00	20.00	40.00		20.00		140.00
STREET LIST BK/FLOPPY	20.00	20.00		20.00	20.00	60.00	20.00	40.00	40.00		20.00	20.00	280.00
VOTER ID CARDS						5.00			5.00				10.00
HOMESTEAD FILINGS		10.00	10.00	20.00		10.00	10.00	20.00	20.00	20.00		10.00	130.00
UCC	20.00		20.00	5.00		1325.52			298.42				1668.94
SPORTING LIC SALES**	1543.00	597.50	1095.50	1263.25	506.25	436.00	448.00	27.00	54.00	482.50	180.00	2831.35	9464.35
SPORTING ADM FEES	67.30	28.70	54.80	66.10	27.30	22.50	22.00	1.50	3.00	23.60	7.60	111.10	435.50
DOG LICENSE	2212.00	1528.00	1498.00	600.00	465.00	1660.00	452.00	242.00	48.00	94.00	68.00	799.00	9666.00
BURIAL PERMITS	15.00	15.00	15.00	30.00		15.00	45.00	45.00	30.00	15.00	30.00	60.00	315.00
CONSERV. TRAIL MAPS	12.00	14.00	16.00	4.00	6.00	14.00	8.00	12.00	14.00		12.00	2.00	114.00
HISTORICAL APPLICATION	25.00			75.00		25.00							125.00
MSC SALES	58.60	6.95	18.60	35.50	0.20	12.00	7.90	5.60	66.20	7.80	25.57	4.00	248.92
TOTALS	5642.90	2900.15	4305.40	3756.35	5664.75	4620.02	6282.90	1703.10	1418.62	1637.90	2723.17	4921.45	45576.71
** PAYMENTS TO:													
Div. Of Fisheries & Wildlife	1543.00	597.50	1095.50	1263.25	506.25	436.00	448.00	27.00	54.00	482.50	180.00	2770.25	9403.25
Town of Belchertown	4099.90	2302.65	3209.90	2493.10	5158.50	4184.02	5834.90	1676.10	1364.62	1155.40	2543.17	2151.20	36173.46
TOTAL	5642.90	2900.15	4305.40	3756.35	5664.75	4620.02	6282.90	1703.10	1418.62	1637.90	2723.17	4921.45	45576.71

Respectfully Submitted,
William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES COMMITTEE (ADA Committee)

The American With Disabilities Committee met every first Tuesday of every other month during the year 2002, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Members of the Committee were Paul Adzima, ADA Liaison; Gary Brougham, Town Administrator; Judy Metcalf, Board of Health; Michael Krzystofik, School Department; Steve Williams, Director of Public Works; Max Bock, Maintenance Department; Ruthella Tucker and Sally Dodge were town-appointed representatives.

The ADA Committee responds to several complaints on ADA related issues, and monitored the progress of the resolution of those issues. The ADA Committee also purchased a Braille Embosser. The Embosser translates and prints documents in Braille for the sight impaired.

The ADA Committee invites the public's opinion and concerns to help promote a safe environment for those who are disabled.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Adzima, ADA Coordinator

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

During 2002, the Board of Assessors experienced no personnel changes as Deborah Sammataro was re-elected by the voters of Belchertown. Samuel Joyal, Chairman, and Michael Forgue, Vice Chairman, rounded out the Board.

Because of sound fiscal management, Belchertown's financial outlook remained strong once again. Important figures in establishing the FY02 budget included:

Total Taxable Value	$686,218,513
Town Meeting Appropriations	$29,337,052
Estimated Receipts/ Revenue sources	$16,367,523
Levy Limit and Debt Exclusions	$12,975,249
Tax Levy	$12,969,529
New Growth	$371,052
FY02 Tax Rate	$18.90

The Board acted upon all timely filed tax abatement applications along with exemption applications for qualifying disabled veterans, elderly, widowed and blind property owners. The Assessors conducted an interim year adjustment of the town's valuations for fiscal year 2002. The Board is confident that properties in town are being valued fairly and equitably according to mass appraisal standards and Massachusetts Department of Revenue guidelines.

The Belchertown Board of Assessors along with the entire Assessing staff are committed to providing the citizens of Belchertown and the general public with timely and accurate information.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Joyal, Chairman
Michael Forgue, Vice Chairman
Deborah Sammataro, Clerk
Board of Assessors

BELCHERTOWN COMMUNITY TELEVISION

Channel 5 became Belchertown Community Television (BCTV), officially, last year. BCTV operates three cable channels in town. Channel 5 is our flagship channel; it originates all live broadcasts and most tape delayed broadcasts. Channel 62 is our tape delay station; it allows us to show tapes while we are live on Channel 5. Channel 63 is the educational access channel; it is programmed by the Belchertown School Department. Many of the surrounding communities have three cable channels assigned as the Government Channel, Community Access Channel, and the Educational Access Channel. When future programming warrants, we, too, will follow that pattern.

Government Access Programs

- BCTV currently regularly broadcasts live or by way of tape delay the following Belchertown Boards, Committees, or Commissions:
- Selectmen
- Conservation Commission
- Planning Board
- School Committee
- EDIC
- Housing Authority
- Council on Aging
- The Yearly Finance Committee Budget Cycle
- The Annual Town Meeting
- The Special Town Meetings

Educational Access Programs

Channel 63 is going through an exciting growth period. Dan Fitzpatrick, past manager of BCTV, is currently teaching a video production course to six students at CHCS. This after-school program is being undertaken with the cooperation of Dick Pazasis, Superintendent of Schools, and Gary McCauley, Principal of CHCS. The course includes lessons in camera operation, on-camera interviewing technique, TV console operation, tape editing, and much more. The goal is to teach the club members all the skills necessary to be independent TV producers at CHCS.

- Educational programs being broadcast on BCTV include:
- BHS home Football games
- BHS Girls' and Boys' JV and Varsity Basketball games
- BHS home hockey games
- Some BHS Wrestling Matches
- Some BHS Chess Tournaments
- Some BHS Drama presentations
- Most BHS Band Concerts
- Most CHCS Band Concerts
- The CHCS Stepping Up Ceremony
- The BHS Graduation Ceremony

Community Access Programs

BCTV continues to cover as many community events as possible. A partial list includes:

- ...About Belchertown
- Town Talk
- Legislator's Report
- Your Money – Your Time – Your Worth
- The BlueRibbonCooks

- The Summer Community Band Concerts on the Commons
- The Annual Belchertown Fair
- The Annual Fair Parade

Special Programs this year include:

- The Building of the New Belchertown High School
- Voices of the Vets
- Slessler at the Stone House
- Rag Shag Parade and Safe Night Trick or Treat
- Veteran's Day Ceremony and Parade
- The Town Christmas Concerts
- The Christmas Lights of Pine Valley

BCTV broadcasts weekly church services from the following churches in town:

- St. Francis Catholic Church
- Dwight Chapel
- Hope United Methodist Church
- The Church of the Living God (syndicated tape program)

Accomplishments and Goals

BCTV continues to expand its programming. This year we taped all home BHS Football games. We initiated, at the suggestion of Sen. Stanley Rosenberg, a monthly show called Legislator's Report. Each month, one of the Belchertown legislator's reports back to us the business of the statehouse. This gives each of our four legislators a bi-annual report.

Peg Louraine, Channel 5 volunteer, taping a Selectmen's Meeting.

BCTV also purchased some new equipment in order to continue to provide first class video and audio over our channels. We are able to do this thanks to the yearly stipend in the town's Charter Communication contract, and our administrative town budget. This year BCTV bought some more Digital 8 camcorders, some wireless microphones, a shotgun microphone, and some professional NLE video editing software.

The Belchertown High School Building Committee was able to honor a commitment to purchase additional state-of-the-art TV equipment so that BCTV could broadcast live from the new Belchertown High School. This equipment will be used exclusively in the new High School for all broadcasts originating from there. This will give us the best picture and audio possible for all BHS events.

With the help of the Belchertown High School Building Committee, BCTV was able to have the high school pre-wired with remote camera locations. This gives us better camera locations throughout the new Veterans' Auditorium, the Cafeteria, and the Gymnasium and avoids long camera cabling runs, making those three areas in the high school ready for broadcast over BCTV.

Unfortunately, Charter Communication has not been able to fully wire the high school so that we can go live as of this date. They are working on acquiring the necessary interface equipment and have made a commitment to completing the installation.

Finally, BCTV purchased an outdoor sign for the station. We are located in the east end of the Freedom Center along with the American Legion, and some Senior Center rooms. It can be difficult to locate us – the new sign should help.

Our plans for next year are modest. We want to continue to provide first class service to the town. We want to overhaul our seven-year-old consoles with new wiring and new video equipment. We want to initiate audio classes so that our volunteers can provide the best sound possible for all our shows. We need to recruit more volunteers in order to maintain and expand our coverage of events in Belchertown.

Volunteers

BCTV runs on volunteer power. Without the following people there would be no BCTV. It is their time and dedication that make it happen. If they didn't cover the government, the community, and the educational system, Belchertown would be the poorer for it. Thank you to:

Ron Abdow
Rick Aldrich
Rev. Bruce Arbour
Gerry Biron
Alan Bourbeau
Bob Farrington
Carolann Koehler
Kim O'Grady
Steve Wittbrodt
Ron Akins,
Brian Aldrich
Mike Beresky
Keith Bodley
Louise Christ
Terry Fontaine
Norm Loftus
Ron Pobieglo

Respectfully submitted,

Lew Louraine, General Manager
Dan Fitzpatrick, Co-Manager
Peg Louraine, Co-Manager

CIVIL DEFENSE

The purpose of Civil Defense or Emergency Coordination is a support group interacting with town departments to assist in emergency planning and preparedness'. These are primarily staff, not "command" functions, where the Coordinators serve under joint action arrangements with other Town Officials.

We have conducted an annual review of the emergency contingency plans, which focus on natural and technological hazards. The group has applied for some grant funding that has been made available from the creation of Homeland Security. This year, one goal will be to compile our "all-hazard" plan onto a laptop computer if the grant funding is awarded. This will make updating the information and gaining access simpler.

The members of the Civil Defense Committee are a diverse group of people, mostly made up from our public safety sector. Their expertise in emergency response covers an extremely wide range, everything from natural disasters through technological incidents involving hazardous materials.

With the addition on the new high school being completed, updating of American Red Cross "Shelter" training will be ongoing for the upcoming year. Interested citizens that would like to assist when an emergency shelter is opened for the community can contact the Director.

The Civil Defense Committee members are committed to actively move ahead. With the help of the Board of Selectmen and citizens, we can and will prepare Belchertown to meet the next century.

For additional information on emergency preparedness, please visit the Civil Defense's website at: http://www.belchertown.org/departments/civil/civilhome.htm

Respectfully submitted,

Edward F. Bock, Director
Civil Defense

CLAPP MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Library is located at 19 South Main Street. Our regular hours of operation include Monday from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please call the Library at 323-0417 for summer hours beginning July 1st and running through Labor Day.

Clapp Memorial Library Patron Registration: Library cards are available to all Belchertown residents. Juvenile patrons (through grade 12) must have their parent or guardian sign their registration and sign a Parental Permission for Juvenile Access to the Information Technologies Network (Internet) and a Parental Permission For Juvenile Access to the Materials of the Clapp Memorial Library.

Fees: All public library services are **FREE**. Patrons are asked to cover the costs inherent in some library activities, i.e. producing copies, computer printouts, etc.

I. CLAPP MEMORIAL LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT

The Clapp Memorial Library is a popular and dynamic community resource, which strives to satisfy the need for high quality, comprehensive public library services in areas that are among the most important to the Belchertown community.

Our Library
Photo courtesy of Shelley Wilson

The Clapp Memorial Library will provide materials and offer services, which promote the development of individual learning strengths in our youngest patrons and prepare their parents and teachers to nourish and sustain this development.

The Clapp Memorial Library will provide an ample collection of topical materials together with a range of reference services selected and designed to meet the general information needs of our patrons.

The Clapp Memorial Library will offer a variety of current, popular materials together with corresponding services specifically selected and designed to satisfy the need for relaxation, recreation and reflection among our patrons.

To satisfy these patrons needs the Clapp Memorial Library offers a wide range of resources in a variety of formats, and provides a number of public library services. These resources and services are selected and delivered by a cordial, competent staff that fully supports the fundamental mission of the Clapp Memorial Library--to completely satisfy your public library needs in a manner that might entice you to visit your Library more often.

II. FY2002 FUNDING

A. Our FY2002 basic municipal appropriation came to of $251,482. This figure represents a 2.2% increase above the FY01 appropriation ($245,973). The total FY2002 figure represents approximately .92% of the entire municipal budget (.95% FY01). The FY01 state average was 1.4%.[1] The FY2001 *Group D library median per capita library expenditure equaled $28.40. In Belchertown (population 12,968) the per capita library expenditure equaled but $19.39, or 68.3% of the FY2001 Group D median. *There are 54 libraries across the Commonwealth that serve populations between 10,000 and 14,999.

B. FY2002 ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INCOME:

FY2002 State Aid Award	
Total	$18,034.00
Friends	4,035.00
Trustees	1,600.00
Eastern Comm. Partnership Gr.	310.00
FY2002 TOTAL	**$23,979.00**

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[1] Massachusetts Public Library Data: 2001 Summary Tables And Graphs. (MBLC: Boston) p. 15.

C. TOTAL FY2002 FUNDS AVAILABLE TO LIBRARY:

Total FY2002 Municipal Appropriation	$251,482.00
Total FY2002 Additional Sources of Income	23,979.00
FY2002 GRAND TOTAL	$275,461.00

III. FY02 CIRCULATION TOTALS: 130,562

A. During FY2002 our Circulation grew by .4%.

Clapp Memorial Library FY02 per capita circulation total equaled 10.06

Group D Avg. per capita circulation for FY02: unavailable.

Clapp Memorial Library FY01 per capita circulation total equaled 10.07

Group D Avg. per capita circulation for FY01: 9.3

B. **Direct Circulation to Patrons**

	ADULT/YA	CHILDREN	TOTAL
Books, etc. (printed materials)	32,037	39,974	72,011
Periodicals	3,431	435	3,866
Audio cassettes	8,660	744	9,404
Video cassettes/discs	17,099	25,648	42,477

CD ROMs - Combined Total: 2,192
Miscellaneous - Combined Total: 342

C. **Interlibrary Loans FROM** other libraries: 5,252; **Interlibrary Loans TO** other libraries: 3,765

D. **Nonresident Circulation Transactions**: 9,138

E. **Registered Patrons** -- As of 6/30/02 active patrons numbered 8,153 (62.9% of the total Belchertown population)

F. **Patron Visits** -- In FY2002 an average of 1,399 patrons visited the library each week for an estimated annual total of 72,748 (1.8% growth for FY02) individual visits to the Clapp Memorial Library.

G. **Program Attendance:**

Children's Program Attendance:

	FY2002
No. of Programs:	407
Attendance:	12,758
Hours of Programming:	540

General Program Attendance:

	FY2002
No. of Programs:	17
Attendance:	255
Hours of Programming:	41

IV. FY01 HOLDINGS INFORMATION (as of June 30, 2002):

A. TOTAL COLLECTION: 21,984 – represents a 3.04% reduction from the 2001 figure.

B. COLLECTION MATERIALS CATEGORIES:

Print Materials

	ADULT/YA	CHILDREN'S	TOTAL
Volumes of books	10,070	8,044	18,144

Non-Print Materials

	ADULT/YA	CHILDREN'S	TOTAL
Audio, Compact Discs, etc.	1,264	112	1,376
Video cassettes/discs	1,755	1,134	2,889
CD ROMS - combined total:			232
Miscellaneous combined total:			165

TOTAL: 22,806

	Clapp Memorial Library[2]	Group D Avg.
FY02 Total Collection	22,806	57,725 (FY01)
Holdings per-capita	1.75 per capita	4.5 per capita (FY01)

The Collection of the Clapp Memorial Library is 60.5% smaller than that of the average Group D Library Collection

IV. HIGHLIGHTS FY02

CIRCULATION/REFERENCE DESK & AUTOMATED SERVICES:

1. The position of Circulation Desk Assistant, currently filled by Tasha Majerowski, was increased from 18 to 25 hours in FY02. Staffing is among our most important considerations--high quality public library patron service is built upon a foundation of one-to-one individual patron attention.

2. In July 2002 the Clapp Memorial Library Board of Trustees adopted a new policy covering access to the **CML Information Technologies Network** (ITN). This new policy was developed to protect juvenile patrons from unwanted materials while using the CML ITN, and to protect the First Amendment rights of all of our patrons. A filter was installed on one of the computer workstations of the ITN, and is available to all patrons.

3. In March, due to unprecedented growth, the **C/W MARS Network** was forced to employ separate servers for member libraries in Central Massachusetts and for those in Western Massachusetts libraries. This **system-split** is a reflection of the increased demand placed upon the entire Network by the ever-increasing number of system-wide holds now being placed. Each month the Clapp Memorial Library alone handles more than 1,000 items via Network Delivery while satisfying patron requests.

4. We have continued to promote our **Reader's Advisory Services**. We have posted New York Times bestseller lists, our own "Good Reads" list, and monthly book displays. Our goal for the future is to continue to advertise and increase this service. Our Reader's Advisory services include the monthly meeting of the Biblioholics Book Club hosting 10-15 members each month.

5. Ann Biron, Head of Circulation Desk/Reference Services continues her **collection development** efforts

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[2] Massachusetts Public Library Data: 2000 Summary Tables And Graphs. MBLC: Boston, p. 20.

in General Fiction and multi-media including music, DVD/video, and audio. We have just begun to collect audiobook discs, while our DVD collection has grown to 230 titles, and is now among our most popular collections.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES:

1. Under the stewardship of Jennifer Whitehead, Head of Children's Services, and Assistant Children's Librarian Mary Senecal FY2002 was another outstanding year for Library Services to Children in Belchertown. Please see Children's Services Programming Statistics above and the informative and extensive **FY2002 Annual Children's Services Report** available at the Library.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

During summer of 2001 (FY01-FY02) there were several unusually hot and humid stretches. Following an entire week of such stifling weather the lack of air conditioning in the Library left several staff members physically ill. Consequently, beginning July 1, 2002 (FY2002) the Library adopted a Heat Related Library Closure Policy, which reads:

"In an effort to protect the health and safety of both staff and patrons the Library will close at 1:00 p.m. on those days when the temperature will rise to 90 degrees or above. On such days the Library will not re-open for the evening hours."

BUDGET, GRANTS AND GIFTS:

1. In FY2002 the Clapp Memorial Library was again fairly successful in obtaining a variety of grants. The total **FY2002 State Aid Award** (MEG, LIG, NR) equaled $16,741.71. The Library was notified late in FY01 that we were among the recipients of a $20,000 Planning and Design Grant from the MBLC, which was utilized in FY2002 (see Long Range Planning). Finally, Head of Children's Services Jennifer Whitehead used all that remained from a $10,000 "The Early Years Are The Learning Years" LSTA grant.

2. FY2002 Budget negotiations yet again left the Library unable to completely satisfy its operational needs. To compensate for this **municipal appropriation deficit** the Library used $18,291.00 in State Grant funds. By maintaining the standards for public library service set by the State we were again eligible for State Aid to Public Libraries. In FY02 this amounted to $16,742.00 (FY01 $17,708.00). Despite our best efforts during our annual budget negotiations, year after year this municipal support deficit leaves us more and more dependent upon State grants which are getting smaller and smaller.

STRATEGIC PLANNING & BUILDING PROJECT:

1. The Library was notified late in FY01 that we were among the recipients of a **$20,000 Planning and Design Grant from the MBLC**. That amount was

generously matched with $36,000.00 from the Town of Belchertown with the strong support of the Board of Selectmen, particularly Gerry Grasso, and the Town Administrator. With this $56,000.00 the Clapp Memorial Library contracted with a pair of different consultants working towards a common goal--a library renovation and addition building project.

The fiscal year (FY2002) opened with a search for a Library Building Consultant. Following the selection process outlined by the Library Board of Trustees, **Sunny Vandermark of Vandermark Consulting**, in Framingham, MA was selected to complete a library building plan for the CML. Following six months of close collaboration which included a day during which Ms. Vandermark spoke with 22 members of the community The Clapp Memorial Library Building Plan was delivered to us in December 2002. Succinctly, The Clapp Memorial Library Building Plan outlined the kinds of programs and services that this Library would need to provide for the Belchertown community 20 years hence (2022), and the kind of facility that we would need to provide those services. A facility of nearly 30,000 S.F. is called for.

With this Building Program in hand the Library Board of Trustees began the second phase of their Planning and Design Project--developing a set of schematic drawings for this new 30,000 S.F. facility. The first task was to organize a Building Committee. The Trustees, the Director and the staff recommended a number of individuals for this Committee. The following men and women accepted the invitation to join that Committee, and they did an outstanding job, one that will pay handsome dividends for their Belchertown friends and neighbors for decades yet to come. The members of the Clapp Memorials Library Building Committee (CMLBC) are:

Stephen Lanphear, Chair
Nancy McConnell, Secretary
Christina Brownell
Doris Dickinson
Kirk Stevens
Janice Fitzpatrick
Melissa Bodzinski
Owen Maloney, Library Director

Following guidelines provided by the MBLC the CMLBC began a search for an architect. Fourteen architectural firms responded to our notice in the Central Register. Following a selection process designed by the Library Board of Trustees 4 of those firms were invited to return to make a presentation before the CMLBC.

The firm of J. Stewart Roberts Architect (JSR), from Somerville, MA was selected to prepare a set of schematic drawings and a deliver a scale model of the new facility. The CMLBC was impressed by the quality and quantity of their previous library work, and by the success they enjoyed with their presentations before several local Town Meetings, and, finally, with the cordial and competent demeanor of the entire JSR team. The CMLBC met with the JSR team every other Monday evening through August 2002. The Building Committee, the Board of Trustees, and the staff were all well pleased with the result. These drawings and the model were delivered in August 2002, and are now on display in the Library.

2. The Board of Selectmen (BOS), and the Town Administrator were kept well informed. The Clapp Memorial Library Building Plan was submitted to the BOS for review and favor. Subsequently, J. Stewart Roberts joined the CMLBC for a preliminary architectural presentation to the BOS. Similarly, the final drawings and scale model were presented to, and discussed with the BOS. The BOS seemed well pleased with the design, and we hope that they will continue to support this important community project.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT:

1. Continuing Education and participation in professional organizations and associated seminars continue to be very important to each staff member. During FY2002 Library staff members attended 35 programs amassing more than 200 continuing education hours. An additional 45 professional meetings were attended by CML staff during FY02.

V. GOALS FOR THE NEAR FUTURE—FY2003

The Clapp Memorial Library has proven itself to be a very popular and an equally valuable community resource. As Belchertown is among the fastest growing communities in the Commonwealth it is likely to become even more popular and more valuable in the coming years. Without a larger facility, and substantially greater municipal support, however, the Clapp Memorial Library will quite simply be unable to meet this increased demand for public library services. Consequently, The Library's goals for FY2003 are to maintain its current level of high quality patron services, and to prepare for a future where that level of quality parallels the growing level of demand.

PATRON SERVICES/ TECHNOLOGY:

1. Toward the close of FY02 the Library developed it's online **Clapp Memorial Library WEB Page**. This will be a dynamic service growing as does this evolving automated resource. As the Library moves more and more into a direct patron service role, this WEB Page will offer a growing list of online library services made available to our patrons, including a number of remote capabilities.

2. Each year we hope to **replace the oldest computers** in our Information Technologies Network (ITN). Unfortunately, budget restrictions have not allowed us to so in FY2002. Unfortunately, the picture looks no brighter for FY03

or FY04. Older, obsolete machines and software cripple our ability to provide one of our most basic services--provide patron access to accurate information in a timely manner.

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

1. Our primary personnel goal in the near future (FY04) is to **retain the staff** that we now have. The near term economic picture for the Town appears bleak. The Library nearly had to cut staff hours to meet our FY03 Municipal Budget limits. Such cuts would be most problematic. The primary goal of the CML is to provide public library patron services of the highest quality, and that means personal friendly, individual patron attention. With the popularity of the Library continuing to grow, any loss of staff would only compound our current patron service woes growing from our severe lack of space.

2. Continue to promote **staff development** and expect staff to take advantage of continuing education opportunities. While the Library will do all in its power to assist motivated staff to pursue continued education, the responsibility to remain professionally competent is a personal responsibility. Such motivation should be generously rewarded.

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

1. Despite the Board of Trustee's impressive record of **maintenance and repair** projects here at The Clapp Memorial Library there remain a number of problem areas. The most pressing at present are the painting of the green wood frames of the Library's dome and cupola. I have spoken with Steve Williams, Director of DPW, and he indicated that perhaps the cost of this project could than be shared by the Town and the Library. I will know more in the Spring of '03.

2. A second problem is the **lack of air conditioning**. The Library environment becomes swelteringly oppressive during the hot, humid summer months. The health of both staff and patrons are a concern. Consequently, in FY02 the Library instituted a Heat Related Library Closure Policy, which stipulates that on days when the temperature will rise to 90 degrees or above the Library will close at 1:00 p.m. and not reopen for its evening hours at 5:00 p.m.

With a new library facility on the not too distant horizon the Library must provide more and more library services to the Town of Belchertown, not less, if we hope to have the full support of the community for this building project. In an effort to provide some relief for the staff, and to maintain our service hours, the use of casement window air conditioners placed in the offices of Ann and Jennifer will be investigated for use in the summer of '03.

ADMINISTRATIVE GOALS:

1. Continue to implement the programs and services included in the **Planning For Results: The CML**

Long Range Plan 2001-2005. Each of these programs and services grow out of the CML Mission Statement:

The Clapp Memorial Library is a popular and dynamic community resource, which strives to satisfy the need for high quality, comprehensive public library services in areas that are among the most important to the Belchertown community.

The Clapp Memorial Library will provide materials and offer services, which promote the development of individual learning strengths in our youngest patrons and prepare their parents and teachers to nourish and sustain this development.

The Clapp Memorial Library will provide an ample collection of topical materials together with a range of reference services selected and designed to meet the general information needs of our patrons. The Clapp Memorial Library will offer a variety of current, popular materials together with corresponding services specifically selected and designed to satisfy the need for relaxation, recreation and reflection among our patrons.

2. Continue an ongoing project begun last year to study, revise and adopt a completely updated set **of policies and procedures for the Clapp Memorial Library**. The need for fairness and clarity in these policies and procedures necessitates this ongoing project.

3. Recently several members of our self-perpetuating **Clapp Memorial Library Board of Trustees** have resigned from the Board. These men and women will be sorely missed. They were dedicated, hard working individuals who accomplished a great deal. The entire Belchertown community is in their debt.

Clapp
Memorial
Library
Established
1887

The remaining Board members might consider recruiting new members during FY03. The number of Trustees has fallen to 4 where 7 are optimal. For a variety of reasons, most prominently the building project, a full Board is essential. The new CML Board of Trustees will have greater responsibilities, be asked to accomplish more, and face greater public expectations than any of their predecessors. This Board will have the opportunity to set the tone of public library service in the Town of

Belchertown for the opening decades of the 21st century.

STRATEGIC PLANNING & BUILDING PROJECT:

1. At our earliest opportunity we must complete and submit an application for a grant from the **Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program**. Due to the fiscal difficulties currently plaguing the State the FY2002 request for applications has not yet be issued. The application itself will consume 6 to 12 months of effort primarily from the Library Director and J. Stewart Roberts, our architect. This is, perhaps, the first and most important component of the fund raising element of our Library Renovation and Addition Project with each award covering an average of 38% (MBLC-M. Killeran) of the total project cost.

2. The Library should recruit community members establishing a **Development Committee**, which will study, develop and carry out a fund-raising campaign for the Library Renovation and Addition Project. Among the most important tasks for the Committee will be to determine if it would be wise to hire a fund raising consultant, and complete a feasibility study.

   The Development Committee should also be asked to develop, perhaps in cooperation with the CML Friends of the Library, an **Annual Campaign** for the Clapp Memorial Library. Each year the CML is appropriated less than 1% of the Town's entire annual budget. Historically, this inadequate level of funding has left the CML unable to meet even its most basic patron services-- i.e. providing a comfortable, heated and well lit public library environment. The need for additional revenue will always be a problem for the CML.

VI. THE PEOPLE

It has only been through the extraordinary efforts of those listed below that the Clapp Memorial Library has been so successful in meeting the public library needs of our Belchertown community.

Volunteers: Mauri Korhunen, Debra Geoffrey, and the entire Friends of the Library group, along with Shelia Brennan, and David Glynn.

Trustees: Jane Crutchfield, Ted Fuller, Stephen Lanphear, Joanne Newman, Mary Beth Phair, Wendy Story

Trustees Emeritus:
Virginia Hislop, George Bach, Joanne Bach, Thomas Fuller, Patricia Fuller

Staff:
Ann Biron, Head of Reference/Circulation Services; Jennifer Whitehead, Head of Children's Services; Nancy McConnell, Head of Automated Services/Inter Library Loan Services; Mary Senecal, Assistant to the Children's Librarian; Tasha Majerowski, Circulation Services Assistant; Midge Leighton, Circulation Services Assistant; Melissa Bodzinski, Library Page; Chris Biron, Library

Page; Jacques Benoint, Library Maintenance and Custodial Care; Owen Maloney, Director

Respectfully submitted,

Owen Maloney
Library Director

COMPUTING DEPARTMENT

It's been yet another busy year for the MIS department. With virtually all Town buildings now connected to the fiber optic municipal area network our number of locations with high-speed network access has grown to 16, and the number of desktop systems we support is in excess of 700.

A large portion of those is located in the new Belchertown High School. For the past few years our town has served as an example to others of how to effectively and efficiently integrate technology into the daily functions of town government, and the new BHS is no different. With over 400 desktop systems and 3 servers running the latest in Microsoft operating systems and software from other industry leaders, the new BHS network will allow for unprecedented sharing of information, access to unlimited research data via a high speed internet connection, and much more.

With this new addition of responsibility, the School Department has allocated funds for a third full time position in the MIS department. We were lucky enough to have a skilled computer technician already working in town. Glenn Armstrong had worked for 15 years as a custodian for the School Department while also providing computer support and guidance to the schools in which he worked. He is now an employee of the Town working in the MIS Department and has been a great asset in the process of our taking over support of the School Department computer systems.

To accommodate the higher volume of Internet users, and to comply with state and federal guidelines, we have installed a second dedicated content-filtered Internet connection through Charter Communications. This connection is currently serving the new BHS, Swift River Elementary and Chestnut Hill schools.

There have also been some major changes and upgrades to the Town's computer system. Munis, the Town's financial software package, has been upgraded to the latest version and installed on a new server running SCO Unix which is capable of handling the increased load brought on by School Department users. We have also implemented a new centrally managed anti-virus package to combat the ongoing threat of virus attacks. Virus signatures are updated weekly on one server and pushed out to all desktops via the internal network to minimize external Internet traffic.

Also worthy of note, we have purchased a Braille printer which resides in the Senior Center and offers access to Town-related information such as meeting minutes and other public information to the visually impaired.

As always our goal in the MIS Department is to increase productivity and efficiency through the managed use of technology. We feel that there have been great strides taken yet again this year toward that goal. We will continue our endeavor to make the Town and School Department an example to others of how to utilize technology and information systems to their greatest potential.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Malandrinos
Director of Computing

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Belchertown Conservation Commission held seventy-eight hearings under the Wetlands Protection Act; thirty-nine of these were Requests for Determination and thirty-three were Notices of Intent, two were for permit extensions, one to Amend an Order of Conditions, two for Administrative Hearings, to deal with outstanding enforcement issues and one was an Abbreviated Notice for Resource Delineation. The Commission issued two Emergency Certificates, for the protection of public health and safety. The Commission also reviewed and commented on all septic system installation permits, site plan reviews, subdivision applications, ANR plans, and Chapter 61, 61A and 61B withdrawal requests. In addition, the Commission also reviewed the applications for all forest cutting plans and the Yearly Operational Plans for the vegetation management for the Massachusetts Electric Company and the New England Central Railroad Company.

The Commission has conducted numerous site visits to monitor on going projects throughout the year. The Cold Spring Golf Course is currently under construction and extensive site visits have occurred to monitor this project. The Commission has dealt with numerous enforcement issues and has issued five Enforcement Orders. Some enforcement matters have been outstanding for some time and the Commission has been concentrating their efforts to bring these projects back into compliance. The Commission is also working on our current Wetland Regulations, their review and update in the future. The Commission also reviewed the request from the Town of Palmer to reduce their Riverfront Area and sent comments to MEPA.

The year 2002 has been a very busy and productive year for both the Town and the Conservation Commission. The Commission has worked very closely with Town officials on numerous and extensive projects. The Conservation Commission has taken advantage of numerous grant opportunities this past year. With the assistance of a $207,400 grant award, under the Self-help Grant program, on May 7th, the Town, purchased the Reed Property, located on Gold Street. The Commission would like to thank the Town's people, the Selectmen, and all collaborating boards and local land trusts, in helping us successfully protect another valuable resource area within the community. The acquisition of the Reed property is in accord with the Town's commitment to protect the quality of our drinking water supplies and maintaining the rural character of our community.

In addition, the Commission, working closely with the Tri-Lakes Association, monitored the herbicide treatment to Lake Metacomet for the control of non-native, invasive aquatic vegetation. A grant was acquired for $10,000 from the Lake and Ponds Grant program for implementing this herbicide treatment.

In the area of conservation land management and open space planning, the Conservation Commission has completed and revised our Open Space and Recreation Plan. The 2002 Belchertown Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) update is a statement of the current priorities of Belchertown's Town boards, officials, and citizens for natural resource protection and recreation. The purpose of this plan is to revise the original 1986 OSRP plan - to update the 1995 OSRP and reassess the open space, recreation, and natural resource protection needs and priorities for the next five years (2002-2007), to carry Belchertown well into the 21st century.

The Commission is anxious to begin new projects for the year 2002 and feels confident that the environment is favorable, within the local community, to protect even more valuable resource areas and open space within the Town. Collaborative efforts by Town departments, non-profit land trusts, state agencies and private landowners only strengthen the chances for successful open space protection within the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Rizzo, Chairman
David Haines, Vice Chairman
Joseph Babineau, Commissioner
Paul Eurkus, Commissioner
Edward Knight, Commissioner
Alan Gallant, Commissioner
Jon Clements, Commissioner
Bruce Tolpa, Associate Commissioner
Kurt Nelson, Associate Commissioner
LeeAnne Connolly, Administrator

COUNCIL ON AGING / SENIOR CENTER

The Council on Aging is a town appointed advisory board. Current members include: Marian Panto, Chair; Doris Dickinson, Vice Chair; Dr. James Collard, Secretary; Ethel Casey; Mildred Christensen; George Dion; Sally Dodge; Josephine Fitzgerald; Daniel Fitzpatrick; William Kimball; and Joan Poole.

Founded in 1973, the Belchertown Council on Aging provides a range of social, health, nutritional, transportation and advocacy services to the senior population in the greater Belchertown Area. The majority of these services are provided through the Senior Center, which is located in the Whitlock Municipal Complex at 60 State Street, (Route 202). An Executive Director manages day-to-day operations.

On May 20 of 2002, the Belchertown Council on Aging celebrated the second anniversary of our new Senior Center. Previously, the center was located in the basement of the Tadgell Elementary

School. The new Senior Center encompasses within it's 10,000 square feet structure, a fully equipped kitchen /dining area, which provides both Congregate meals and Meals on Wheels to seniors in the community, a Supportive Day Care Program, and several areas for activities.

The Council on Aging is a busy and vital organization providing services not only to seniors but families in town. The Senior Center building provides a place where an array of recreational, health, educational, and social service programs are available to senior's ages 60 and older. The Senior Center building also provides the Town of Belchertown a back up shelter for use in an event of a community emergency.

Outreach efforts as well as Social Services remains a major unseen facet of the Council on Aging. Privacy and Confidentiality is our mandate in these areas. As a result, many in the community are unaware of the wealth of information, services, programs and referrals available through the Outreach/Social Service Coordinator. Advocacy for our current and ever growing elder population is also a major focus of this department. Some of the areas where individuals may need assistance include obtaining appropriate insurance, prescription coverage/options, homecare providers, housing, transportation, access to and information regarding State and Federal programs, nutritional, personal and home safety issues. Coordination with community based agencies such as WestMass Elder Care, Greater Springfield Senior Services, VNA, Franklin Community Action as well as partnerships with police, fire, EMT, churches, private and non-profit agencies and local businesses continues to grow. The need for creative ways to service our increasing senior population remains a top priority as we face fiscally troubling times.

Our Title IIIC Nutrition Program provides on site lunches, as well as home delivered meals to seniors unable to leave their home. Congregate meals are served in our dining room Monday through Friday and are often accompanied by music or a speaker. During the FY02 period, seniors enjoyed in excess of 10,000 meals in the good company of others. Our Home Delivered Meal Program served 41,000 meals this past year. Meals are delivered 363 days a year. The Nutrition Program is supported through a combination of town funding; grant money, participant donations, private fundraising, state home care reimbursements, and USDA cash and commodities.

Senior Center dining room filled to capacity

During FY02, the Senior Surrey has transported over 200 different seniors on over 4000 individual trips. The transportation provided under this program is vital to the continued physical and emotional well being of our participants in helping to reduce isolation, and to insure medical care. Seniors have also enjoyed a variety of activities including shopping, social and recreational activities and much more. Rides are still offered for general shopping and doctor appointments as scheduling allows. Belchertown seniors who participate in the Supportive Day Care Program at the Center also receive transportation. The current van now has over 130,000 miles on it. The Director was able to secure a grant through the Department of Construction and transportation, which will allow us to replace this van sometime in the next 12 months. The grant provides 80% funding. We have already begun fundraising efforts for the other 20%.

We also offer a Supportive Day Program. The program is intended to provide a supervised, organized, and supportive setting to elders in need of a structured environment and serves a critically important service to the community. One of its goals is to help support caregivers and other concerned family members whose loved ones are recovering from illness, injury, or who cannot or do not want to remain at home during the day. This is a therapeutic social program for the participants as well as welcomed respite for the participant's family/caretaker. Thanks to the efforts of our Activities Coordinator we have broadened, expanded, and improved our offerings this year. Our weekly and monthly programs and activities include a walking club, bowling, exercise classes, line dancing, widow and widowers group, senior chorus, computer class, sign language instruction, monthly theme socials, bingo, a variety of card games, painting and craft groups, a senior band and sing-a-long. Other short term instructional opportunities have included quilting classes, flower arranging, seasonal decorations, ginger bread house and cake decorating and several cooking classes. We also have a Koffee Korner get together three mornings a week, day trips, and a travel club operated by our Senior Center Citizens Association.

The Quabbinaires Walking Club participating in the annual Fair Day parade

We have expanded our intergenerational programs involving our seniors and school age children. These include a "Caring and Sharing" program, foster grandparents, and community service opportunities for older students. This has been a rewarding experience for all involved.

We continue to develop collaborative programs with a variety of outside groups, organizational, and individuals. A "Speakers" program including a continental breakfast has allowed our seniors to explore such topics as tax and estate planning issues, retirement and long-term care planning, and a variety of other financial and legal issues. A six-week training program with the

Alzheimer's Association has continued into a monthly support group and will include future ventures to inform and support caregivers. A collaboration with the UMASS nursing program afforded our seniors the opportunity to receive individual attention resulting in a personalized plan to deal with a variety of health issues.

We offer a variety of monthly educational and informational programs. In addition, we offer monthly health screenings for blood pressure, blood sugar, hearing loss and a yearly flu shot clinic, which serves over 200 seniors. We also offer a stroke support group and a TOPS program for those with weight concerns. We also continue community involvement with nighttime dinners, which are open to the entire community and yearly participation in the Belchertown Fair and parade.

The SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) Council & TRIAD continues addressing issues of health and safety in the community. The Belchertown SALT Council is one of many in Hampshire County supporting this project. Plans to revitalize and expand its mission and function to include expanded participation and partnerships are a future goal.

Volunteers continue to remain a major asset to the Senior Center. Regular volunteers range from as young as 12 years old to individuals in their 80's. Last year, over 100 people were recognized for their service to seniors. Over 9000 hours of service were donated at a savings of $100,000.

The Belchertown Council on Aging and the services that the organization provides would not be successful without the support of the local town citizens, volunteers, grants, state and local town government. For all this support, a most generous thank you is to be given. Please come and visit your new Senior Center. We promise you will not be disappointed.

The BHS Mascot with Sharon Barnett (School Committee Member) and William Barnett (Town Clerk)

CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Belchertown Cultural Council experienced a number of changes during this calendar year. Lara Lane, Chair, moved to Vermont, and Dennis Conway, Treas., left the council. The remaining members, Katie Fitzgerald, Mary Ellen Miller, Sharon Cady Harrison and Ljuba Marsh reorganized the committee, recommended new members to the council and set long and short-term goals.

The Cultural Council Members are:
Ljuba Marsh-Chair
Mary Ellen Miller-Secretary
Katie Fitzgerald-Treasurer
Sharon Cady-Harrison-Member
Martina Robinson-Member
Melanie Lewis-Member
Arose Nielsen- Member

The Belchertown Cultural Council was awarded $2690.00 from the Mass Cultural Council and approved the following grants:

Claire Baldwin - Teens Writing in Belchertown	$550.00
Belchertown Historical District Commission – Self Guided Walking Tour	$300.00
Belchertown Historical Association – Victoria's Secret Rump Pads on the Runway	$750.00
Rebecca Burrell/Clapp Library – Storytelling and Shapeshifting	$300.00
Swift River School – Black History Celebration	$600.00
Tim VonEgmond/Clapp Memorial Library – Performance for Summer Reading Program	$275.00
PASS Grant to Cold Spring School – Sarah Plain and Tall	$415.00

The focus of the grants was to provide programs that brought cultural events to Belchertown.

This year the Belchertown Cultural Council initiated a Second Sunday program of free cultural events that take place on the second Sunday of the month. Offerings, this year, have been:

- A Japanese Bookmaker and a Japanese wind ensemble
- An award winning Jazz A Capella chorus
- A holiday dramatic reading

We will continue with:

- A family contra dance
- A garden design lecture
- A mother's day tea with chamber ensemble

Our goal is to do outreach, provide a monthly calendar of cultural events for Belchertown, and network with local organizations to provide dynamic cultural events in town throughout the year.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION

The Belchertown Economic Development Industrial Corporation (BEDIC) was formed by Town Meeting vote in 1992. Seven members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen with staggered three-year terms. Formed under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 121C, the BEDIC's mission is to develop and implement a Town Meeting approved economic development plan on the former Belchertown State School property.

Shortly after acquiring title from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 2002, the BEDIC began working with the engineering firm Tighe and Bond, which has engineered an improved road from State Street to Jackson Street. The BEDIC agreed to the Town's request that the road should be designed to accommodate traffic for an alternative route bypassing the Town Center. Additionally, the BEDIC agreed with the Town to install a 12" gravity feed main sewer line in the roadway.

The BEDIC signed a Memorandum of Agreement designating the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA) as the preferred developer for Parcel D. The PVTA will issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to select a consultant to plan the installation of an Inter Model Transportation Center (bus terminal) in conjunction with the Courthouse. The RFP will be used to secure federal transportation funding.

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) has agreed to start the process of identifying and applying for grants that can be used to construct roads and infrastructure.

A public hearing was conducted in November to get Town input on two different development visions: 1) Wait for the large deal and do not work with small users; 2) Work with all potential users and try to accommodate them within our development vision. The public hearing directive was to work with all potential users and not wait for the large deal.

The Committee on Assisted Living of the Council on Aging has been working with the preferred developer, Baran Partners, and the BEDIC to finalize an acceptable proposal for using two existing buildings as well as open land. All are working on a final decision to proceed.

Respectfully submitted,

Directors
William Terry, Vice-Chairman
Lloyd Chadbourne, Jr.
Daniel Fitzpatrick
Peter Galuszka
Kirk Stephens
Richard Steiner

Associate Directors
David Marley
David Mears
Elizabeth Taras

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

The Town of Belchertown Department of Emergency Medical Services Provides Emergency Medical services to the residents and visitors of Belchertown 24-hours a day.

The Belchertown EMS Department operates on a set budget from the Town of Belchertown with revenue generated by transports being placed in an ambulance account reserved for appropriations. Belchertown Ambulance Service is a nonprofit municipal third service

Belchertown EMS has mutual-aid contracts with the towns of Amherst, Ware, Palmer, Granby and Ludlow. Anytime an ambulance service is unable to cover an emergency ambulance call they request mutual-aid from the closest available ambulance service.

Due to the increased call volume and the increased frequency of simultaneous Emergency Ambulance calls we have requested backup ambulances from other towns on 67 occasions last year alone.

Because Belchertown EMS is only Intermediate level we are required to activate a Paramedic intercepts for many medical and trauma conditions. This requires us to call a paramedic level service and have them dispatch a paramedic level ambulance to meet our Ambulance enroute to the hospital. This allows the Paramedic to provide care to the patient sooner and increases the chances of survival. Belchertown EMS intercepted with approximately 90 paramedic level ambulances in 2002

With a staff of full-time, part-time and paid-call Basic, Intermediate and Paramedic level Emergency Medical Technicians who responded to 1137 calls in 2002, this is an increase over last years call volume despite the fact that Belchertown EMS has all but discontinued routine non-emergency transfers due to budget constraints and increased emergency calls.

The EMS Department continues to focus on education and training to achieve our goal of becoming licensed as a Paramedic Level ambulance service in July of 2003. This would allow our service to further treat patients prior to arriving at the hospital. This has been the goal of this Department for many years and could become a reality in 2003.

BELCHERTOWN
BELCHERTOWN

The EMS Department has conducted/ sponsored an over 500 hours of combined training for our EMTs during the past year.

This years training consisted of:

- EMT basic refresher
- Intermediate refresher
- Advanced airway adjuncts
- Aspirin Administration
- Epi-Pens
- EMS State Treatment Protocols (update)
- CPR for Professional Rescuer
- Cardiac Defibrillation (AED)
- Hazmat Training
- Blood borne Pathogens
- Lifeflight Responses
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support
- Patient Care Reports

Belchertown EMS is a certified training center for the AMERICAN SAFETY & HEALTH INSTITUTE and a certified training site for the AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION.

The EMTs from Belchertown EMS have provided the following training courses to the community in 2002.

- Basic First-Aid
- CPR-for friends and family
- CPR for the Community & Workplace
- CPR- for professional rescuer
- Heartsaver AED
- Childcare & Babysitting Safety (CABS)

We provide services with 5 vehicles:

Unit 45-A1 Our front line ambulance is a 2000 Ford E-450 manufactured by American Emergency Vehicles.

Unit 45-A2 Our back up ambulance is a 1996 E-350 manufactured by Marque Inc.

Unit 45-R4 this unit is a fully stocked 4-wheel drive ambulance with the ability to treat and transport a patient if needed. This unit was placed into service in July 2002 as a Licensed Class 5 ALS level Ambulance. This unit is a 1984 (former military) Chevy blazer and is used to gain access into off road areas and during inclement weather as an ALS/BLS response vehicle.

Unit 45-C15 The fourth vehicle, a 1996 Ford Crown Victoria is used as an administrative vehicle and a rapid response vehicle when additional assistance is needed during an emergency.

The last vehicle is a 1986 Ford E350; this vehicle is a former ambulance that is used for driver training and as a support vehicle for large incidents.

Director of EMS
Steven A. Syriac

Full-Time ALS Coordinator
Judi Searle, EMT Intermediate
William Fisher April 2002

Part-Time
John E. Hawley
Mark Brouillette

Call EMT's
David Conkey
Bruce Jenks
Erica Larner
Jaime Lubelczyk
Jonathan Smith
Kris Mitchell
Thomas Majerowski
Wes Stevenson
Brina Fondi
Carol Gagner
Hiram Rodriguez
James Taylor
Kerry Gaughan
Rachel Olbrys
Scott Kier
William Gray

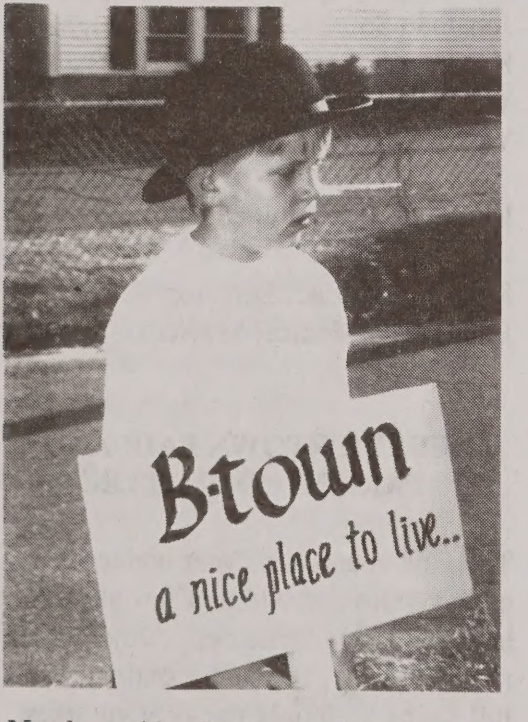
Respectfully Submitted,

Steven A. Syriac, Director
Emergency Medical Services

BELCHERTOWN FAIR AND PARADE COMMITTEE

The Fair opened this year under very cloudy skies and within a few short hours, the sky opened up. Although it rained heavily, activities continued in full swing with only the very youngest staying home. Committee members and eager volunteers worked to dry the grounds to make walking about as safe as possible. On Saturday morning the sun rose to clear skies and the biggest parade ever stepped off promptly at 10:00 a.m.

The theme of the 145th Belchertown Fair was The Wild, Wild West. The theme was utilized in every area of fair activities including the vendor space, parade, and exhibit hall. We were fortunate to have the Stage Coach, stored at the Stone House, make a guest appearance in the parade. Unfortunately it was held up by bandits in front of the Judges Stand. Visitors were serenaded most of the weekend by country music in keeping with the theme and the Adult Social tent was very busy.


B-town
a nice place to live..

Marcher waiting for the parade to step off.
Photo courtesy of Becki Smith

As in most other areas, state grant funding was non-existent. However, the fair budget was trimmed to meet available funds and maintained a no growth budget. New lighting was obtained for each of the tents to bring overhead lighting up to code. While there were no new activities all the old favorites were very busy. The ever-popular Tri-lakes Trout pond made a return. Community sponsors were very helpful in bringing many of the activities to the public. Vendor space was a sell out with 84 booths. As usual there was a mix of profit and non-profit, adult and youth with a large representation from local churches and groups organized to sponsor youth activities.

The Giant Pumpkin Contest was notable this year for 2 reasons. All winners were youngsters. The top weight went to Mark Lamontage with 515 pounds.

The Committee continues to be a small group of individual who work year round to bring this activity together. It is very clear that the community values the activity by participating in all 3 days. We are increasingly fortunate that our list of dedicated volunteers is growing. Each year returning those who return do a little more and new people step up and say, "Is there something I can do?" The enthusiasm is contagious and everyone has a great time. We also remain very appreciative of the support the various Town departments give us. With the turn of the year one fair season closes and new one begins with preparation already starting for the 146th annual Belchertown Fair.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Brown, Chairperson
Fair and Parade Committee

BELCHERTOWN FAMILY CENTER

The Belchertown Family Center has been in operation for 5 years and continues to grow at a surprisingly rapid pace. Since moving to the Franklin school in July of 2001, enrollment has grown to approximately 150 families with approximately 250 children. This reflects a 300% increase in participation in 18 months. The Franklin School location is ideal for the age group (birth to school-age) we are servicing. Volunteers have spent many hours cleaning and decorating the center so that it now provides a great atmosphere for learning and growing. We offer a castle room for fine motor skills, a garden room for infants, a circus room for gross motor activities, a craft room, and an ocean themed snack room. We believe there is a direct correlation between the quality of our center and the constant increase in attendance.

Research continues to find that the early childhood years are critical in relation to children's emotional and physical development. Our goal for the children is to facilitate growth in the areas of fine and gross motor skills, conceptual development, language skills, and most of all social development. This is achieved through play stations, snack areas, story times, and craft projects. The services that we provide are in ever growing demand, especially in Belchertown where the 0-5 year age group is projected to double by 2020.

The Belchertown Family Center operates as a volunteer organization supporting young children and their parents. Through the huge volunteer efforts of our parents and caregivers and small grants, we are able to be open for three two-hour sessions each week (Tuesday 9:30-11:30, Wednesday 12:30-2:30, and Friday 9:30-11:30). We also provide other services, such as educational programs for parents, learning opportunities for children, and community enrichment programs all of which are open to the public. This years activities included: A Family Fun Night, a musical demonstration, an Ice Cream Social with the singer Donna Lee, Parent Workshops, Easter Egg Hunt, a booth at the Fair providing a baby nursing and changing station, a float in the Fair's parade, Forest Park Zoo on the Go, Fire Department visit, a Halloween Party, Thanksgiving family style dinner, and a visit by Santa Claus.

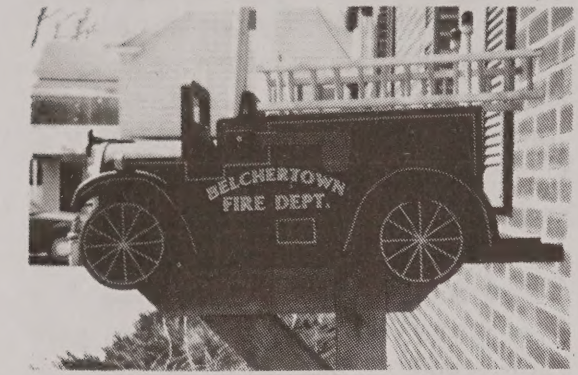
Overall, 2002 was very successful year, and we anticipate the Family Center's impact and usefulness to the community of Belchertown to grow and flourish over the coming years.

Respectfully,

Family Center Town Committee
Angie Tauer
Karen Horak
Katherine J. Atkinson M.D.
Lucy Klein
Richard Poissant

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department has had another successful year. Our commitment towards life safety and property conservation is our primary dedication to the community. This is accomplished through efforts of the firefighters, their families, our Town Officials and the great-continued support we receive from the citizens of Belchertown.



The new firefighting equipment and computerized training material we received in 2001, has become very beneficial to the call/volunteers streamlining new technology and training practices that has simplified continued education for those with adverse work schedules. Again the dedicated men and women that provide the quality and professionalism that the Town relies on in their fire department have put in countless hours.

The vast amount of development along with our increased population and the large geographical area that we cover has continued to hamper our response times to incidents. As for a volunteer department our response times to an emergency call would be considered reasonable for this type department. However a Nationally recognized response standard would deem this unacceptable. Our firefighters are quality trained and experienced, the department only lacks a quicker response time from inadequate full-time staffing. Full-time firefighters would not replace the existing call/volunteer department, but would add to the benefits of combining resources to give the citizens that quicker response which could be that key factor between life and death.

The fire department has been networking with the ambulance department to achieve the goal of a better understanding of each departments training practices. Building a stronger tie and understanding of what the others are doing and why when each arrive on those emergency scenes is beneficial to all we serve. This has been working well, and rewarding.

Fire Prevention and Education activities still continue to increase with little relief. The increase of home construction, commercial sites, and many new proposals create inspection demands and added services that overburden this department's full-time staff. More full-time staff is needed and must be considered in the near future.

The Student Awareness Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) program was continued within the school district. With the ongoing support from the school committee, the teachers, and the firefighters have made this program a real success story.

It is very rewarding to recognize the commitment the Citizens make to this department, and the benefits that the fire department can provide back to the community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Edward F. Bock, Fire Chief

Members of the Belchertown Fire Department are:

Deputy Chiefs
Hugh Hubbard
James Hodgen

Captains
John Workman
Richard McGinnis
Robert Hodgen
Timothy Lofland
Bruce Officer

Lieutenants
Richard Knight
Ronald Beaver
Edward D. Fuller
David Auchter

Firefighter
David Gay
Max Bock
Donald Thayer
Edward L. Fuller
Melissa Conrad
Paul Salvatore
Darryn Beaudry
Edward Knight
Scott Rae
Matt Rivest
Jeremy Gemme
Mark Lavallee
Richard Bernier
William Shattuck, Jr.
Paul Tierney
Michael Samson
Ted Covill
Steve Williams
Scott Cameron
Tom Cooke
Paul Greene
Leonard Boisjolie
Jeff Scott
Matthew Gemme
John Racine
Herbert Wood

Auxiliary Firefighters
Patrick McMorrow
Scott Chapman
Thomas Giguere
Patience Monty
Gilbert Ocasio

Types of Responses 2002	
Structure Fires	13
Vehicle Fires	11
Vehicle Extrication	9
Wildland Fires	26
CO Alarms	3
Hazardous Spills	13
Faulty Appliance	101
Sounding Alarms	22
Assist Police / EMS	6
Assist Homeowner	7
Odor Investigation	10
Officer Call	11
Mutual Aid	12
Unpermitted Burn	1
Total	**245**

Inspections & Permits	
Open Burning	831
Smoke Detector	304
Oil Burner	147
Propane Tank	116
Underground Tank Removal	14
Blasting	12
Total	**1424**

BOARD OF HEALTH

During the 2002 calendar year, the Board of Health continued to work toward improving the quality of services provided to the citizens of Belchertown. The Board accomplished its mission of protecting the health of residents and complying with applicable local, state and federal regulations via its monthly meeting, special meetings, and project-specific work performed by Board members and staff. The Board consists of 5 members, elected for 3-year terms. The activities and functions of the Board were carried out through the supportive efforts of the staff members of the Quabbin Health District. The District serves the communities of Pelham and Ware in addition to Belchertown.

Review and approval of septic plans continued to be a significant task of the Board and staff. With the growth in home purchases and construction in town, Title V regulations continued to place substantial time demands on the Board and staff. A total of 159 septic permits were approved; 96 new construction and 63 repairs. The Board continued to issue all applicable permits and licenses for food establishments (28); limited food establishments (6); temporary food permits for the Belchertown fair (32); milk and cream licenses (32); tobacco retail sales (12); well construction (87); well replacements (16); septic installers (35); retail food permits (14); and other services such as tanning salons (2); piggery (1); massage therapy licenses (6); funeral parlor (1); hauler's permits (5); public pool permit (1); day camp permit (1); frozen dessert license (1); mobile home licenses (2); and ecology can permit (1).

In May 2002, the Board promulgated and enacted a regulation entitled "Groundwater and Recharge Protection". Initiated by concerned citizens, this regulation was adopted as a preventive measure for the purpose of protecting and preserving Belchertown's drinking water resources from discharge of pollutants and hazardous materials and minimizing the risk to public health and the environment.

In the fall of 2002, Board of Health staff and members were involved with the issuance of permits for and inspection of food handling practices at the new Stop and Shop Supermarket.

Although the issue of tobacco control remained a concern for the Board in 2002, statewide budget cuts all but eliminated the Massachusetts Tobacco Control program through the Department of Public Health. Neighboring communities lost significant funding; some towns were completely de-funded with little chance of restoration of funds due to state fiscal constraints. The Belchertown Board of Health continued to explore no-cost ways to enforce its local tobacco control regulation in the absence of state funds. Board members and part-time temporary personnel performing enforcement inspections were explored.

In 2002, the Board and staff continued to implement the revised state code governing food-handling practices in public establishments such as restaurants and schools. This new code plays a major role in protecting the public from the risk of food-borne illness. Staff and Board members enacted new procedures for inspection and enforcement of the code. The new requirements are more rigorous and enforcement is more labor-intensive than the previous code. The Board and staff recognized the extensive efforts of local restaurants and food establishments to educate their employees and management about the new code and the additional requirements to meet the more stringent standards.

The Board of Health was involved in the development of the town-wide

Community Plan sponsored by the Planning Board. Board of Health members and staff wrote the chapter on public health needs and issues for the town.

Gary Racicot was appointed as the Animal Inspector and works closely with the state Bureau of Animal Health in the Department of Food and Agriculture, which provides information and support to local animal inspection personnel.

Board members and staff continued to keep informed of new and emerging issues in public health via training seminars and workshops. New and veteran Board members attended the annual Massachusetts Association of Health Boards Certification and Training program. At this and other seminars, special emphasis was on public safety/security, water protection, public health threats from biological/chemical terrorism, revised food safety codes and newly emerging public health concerns such as West Nile virus. The Board of Health office continues to serve as the central location in town hall for the distribution of health education materials and information on public health issues.

Communicable Disease Report 2002

The following contagious Diseases and Animal bites were reported for the Town of Belchertown in 2002:

Animal Bites:
- Squirrel Scratch – 1
- Cat bites – 3
- Dog bites – 14
- Rabies Exposure – 3

Reportable Diseases:
- Giardia – 2
- Lyme – 5
- Chicken Pox – 3
- Hepatitis C – 3
- Salmonella – 1
- Pertussis – 1
- Campylobacter Jejuni – 3
- Tuberculoses – 1

The control of communicable diseases remains a very important focus of our public health program. Our surveillance and control objectives are as follows:

- Receive and process disease reports
- Maintain patient confidentiality
- Investigate source or possible transmission mode
- Enforce quarantine and isolation laws
- Ensure access to medical testing and treatment
- Educate to reduce risk

Our efforts are dependent on cooperation from area physicians and hospitals. To have a successful infectious disease control program, we must receive reports in a timely fashion.

All contagious disease reports received by the Board of Health Office are investigated by Jane Beckland, R.N., from Mary Lane Hospital's Visiting Nurse Association. The Board has a contract with that organization to provide public health nursing services to Belchertown residents.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Metcalf, R.S., C.H.O
Director of Public Health

HISTORIC DISTRICT BY-LAW COMMISSION

In Massachusetts, local historic districts offer the strongest form of protection for the preservation of historic properties. In many instances, local historic districts can be credited with saving the character of a neighborhood or town from otherwise certain destruction. When Belchertown created the Historic District By-law Commission, our community recognized that its historic buildings and settings are unique resources, worthy of protection. A historic district can show the evolution of a whole community. There is nothing like seeing history right before your eyes. As such, historic districts are unparalleled resources for anyone interested in local history.

To that end, our group felt that we needed to focus more on awareness and education. Many people did not know that Belchertown had a local historic district. Out first goal was to install signs on Maple Street, Jabish Street, South Main Street and North Main Street informing visitors and residents that they were entering the historic district. Those signs were installed by the Belchertown Highway Department in the Spring of 2002.

In November 2002, the Historic District by-Law Commission and the Historic Commission sponsored a Day of the Dead Heritage Cemetery Walk. The evening started with a slide show relating to the gravestones and famous stonecutters who practiced their craft in Belchertown. We then had walks through the cemetery with costumed actors portraying historical figures from Belchertown's past. This was incredibly well received and perhaps may just become an annual event. We applied for, and received, a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council to prepare a self-guided walking tour of the Historic District. We hope to have this finished by the summer of 2003. We have also prepared a set of Design and Maintenance Guidelines for property owners within the historic district. During the past year we held three public hearings regarding applications for work in the historic district.

Winter in Belchertown
Photo courtesy of Marguerite Brennan

Citing time restraints, John Curry, III after many years of service on the Historic District By-Law Commission decided not to seek another term. Thank you John for all your years of work and for keeping us on our toes.

Beth Behn was appointed to the Commission in November 2002. She is currently teaching and pursuing her studies in American History. Her viewpoints will certainly be an asset to our group.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacqueline Dupre, Chairman
Beth Behn
Louis Faassen
Stacy Race
Annie Steiner

BELCHERTOWN HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Belchertown Historical Commission has the following members.
Ethel M. Brunson
Judith Fuller Gillan
Kenneth F. Kitchell Jr.
Genevieve Schreiber
Leslie E. Squires - Chairman
Bonnie Strickland

During the past year the Belchertown Historical Commission began the process of documenting Belchertown's historic burial grounds. Members began the task of mapping the cemeteries in town. We started with Mount Hope. The cemetery was divided into sectors. Each sector was given a letter and a number and individual members were assigned a sector and they would draw a rough picture of the headstones in their sectors. They also recorded the names and dates on the stones. Two other members of the commission would than go into the cemetery and photograph the headstones. We are having the photographs printed and put on CD's. This project is on going and will take several years to complete. It will result in the preparation of completed inventory forms to be submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

In September 2002 the Belchertown Historical Commission received a letter from Thomas F. Broderick, Chief Engineer, Massachusetts Highway Department. He informed us of the states intention to replace the Pratt pony truss bridge. The Pratt Bridge crosses the Swift River from Belchertown to Bondsville at River Street. The bridge was built about 1885. It is only 17' wide. The state plans to replace it with a new wider structure. The existing bridge will not be destroyed. Along with the proposal to replace the bridge there was a proposal to dismantle the old bridge and remove it to the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and reassemble it along one of the many footpaths on campus. The bridge will also be used to teach engineering students design and construction techniques. The commission went to the bridge and observed the vast corrosion on the underside of the bridge. The commission agreed to support this project.

At the Belchertown Fair the Belchertown Historical Commission in conjunction with the Belchertown Historic District Bylaw Commission had a booth promoting "The Day of the Dead" a program and walking tour of Mount Hope Cemetery. On the evening of 1 November local artist Barbara Hume spoke on the topic of "Gravestone Rubbing", and exhibited several examples of her work. Robert Drinkwater, president of the Association of Gravestone Studies, presented a slide show on local gravestones and some of the people who carved them. After the slide show members of the public were taken into Mount Hope Cemetery where they met some of the people from Belchertown's past and learned a little about each. This walk through the past was very well received.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie E. Squires, Chairman
Belchertown Historical Commission

Swift River Crafts decorated for the holidays
Photo taken by Kurt Swanson

HOLIDAY LIGHTING COMMITTEE

Final Report Submitted

The Holiday Lighting Committee was formed as the First Night Committee in the spring of 1998. Its original mission was to plan and conduct activities on the evening of December 31, 1999.

Fundraising was begun during 1998 to buy and/or fabricate Holiday season lights for the Belchertown Common. The Committee conceived of a plan to ring the Common with Stars and snowflakes, using existing telephone/power poles, for the annual holiday season in Belchertown. The first obstacle was a regulation, which barred the use of telephone/power poles for town decorations. Many meetings were held between Committee members and representatives of the Town and the telephone and power companies, and the final decision by the Committee was to purchase separate pole which would be erected each year and on which the lights weld be installed.

Fundraising efforts were largely spearheaded by Ms. Dutton and Ms. Rossi, who succeeded in raising over $8,800.14 to purchase materials, lights, poles, and to pay for the installation of the lights in year one. Eleven lights and 13 poles were purchased and, with the help of Ed Drew, Kevin Brown, Steve Williams, Gary Brougham and others, the lights went up in December of 1999. Donations were enthusiastically provided by businesses, townspeople, clubs, family groups, and others, and their generosity was noted again and again by the Committee members.

The original mission of the Committee was accomplished with the events of December 31, 1999. With overwhelming and energetic help from the Belchertown Firefighters' Association and Belchertown Fair Committee members, events offered included ice skating on the Common, bake sales, raffles, music, pony rides and the lighting of the "Year 2000" sign at the Old Town Hall.

Of special note, during the fundraising efforts, pledges were made to donors to erect the holiday lights in particular memory of or in honor of family members, loves ones, and others, and a plaque was planned, on which names of the honorees would be engraved. That plaque has been acquired and we are awaiting a date for installation in Lawrence Memorial Hall (or some other chosen place).

Ed Drew providing time and equipment to set up the holiday lighting display of snowflakes.
Photo courtesy of Karen Dulude

After the events of December 31, 1999, the name of the Committee was changed to Holiday Lighting Committee" to reflect the work that remained to be done, including wiring one or more fabricated stars and snowflakes, possible purchase of more stars/snowflakes and poles, replacement bulbs for existing fixtures, and so on. A balance of $3,999.93 remains in the "Holiday Lighting Gift Fund," and it is the hope of the Committee that that balance will be used for the above-mentioned purposed, primarily maintenance on the existing holiday lights.

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Louraine, Member
Holiday Lighting Committee

BELCHERTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Belchertown Housing Authority is located at 42 Everett Ave. OFC24, Belchertown, MA 01007-9585. Telephone number is 413-323-4064.

Belchertown Housing Authority has one, two, three and four bedroom apartments. Everett Acres, East Walnut Street, State Street and George Hannum Road are the existing properties. Utilities are included for specific apartments.

Eligibility for housing is based on age, family size, disability and income. The current maximum net annual income for eligibility is $30,450 for one person, $34,800 for two bedroom, $39,150 for three bedroom and $43,500 for a four bedroom.

We have a 24-hour answering service and an onsite maintenance staff. A community room is available for tenants to use and enjoy. A laundry facility is located at Everett Acres.

Please contact our office for further information.

INSPECTION SERVICES

The Inspection Services Department noticed a slight decrease in single family housing this year. The total number of new home permits issued was 92. The year 2002 saw a total of 97 single family home permits. The total number of building permits for the year was 507. Two new prominent buildings were issued certificates of occupancy in 2002, the New High School and the long awaited Stop & Shop. Commercial building activity increased, as there were 5 permits for new commercial buildings. Weights and Measures inspected all gas stations in town for accuracy. All scales were also certified, including an additional 35 located at the Stop & shop.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Adzima, Building Commissioner, ADA Coordinator, Sealer of Weights & Measures, and Zoning Enforcement Officer

Local Building Inspector:
Michael Henry

Primarily Electrical Inspector:
Paul Choiniere

Wiring Inspector:
Harvey Beaupre

Primary Plumbing Inspector:
Dave Fredenburgh

Plumbing Inspector:
Chris Hubbard

Office Assistant:
Lynn Sikes

BUILDING PERMITS	**2002**	**REVENUE**
Single Family Residence	92	$ 45,229.00
Multi Family Residence	1	$563.00
Business/Commerc.	5	$31,055.40
Additions/Alterations/ Repairs	201	$14,037.60
Shed/Barn/Garage/ Deck	104	$6,413.00
Wood/Pellet Stoves	15	$375.00
Demolitions	9	$195.00
Pools	45	$1,213.00
Signs	16	$915.00
Miscellaneous Building Permits	19	$532.00
TOTAL BUILDING PERMITS	507	$100,518.00
NON-BUILDING PERMITS		
Certificate of Inspection	22	$995.00
Weights & Measures	4	$137.00
Home Occupation Permits	34	$510.00
TOTAL MISC. PERMITS	60	$1642.00
UTILITY PERMITS		
Electrical	418	$27,284.00
Plumbing	166	$8,430.00
Gas	135	$4,920.00
TOTAL UTILITY PERMITS	719	$40,634.00

TOTAL 2002 PERMITS	1286
TOTAL 2002 REVENUE	$142,794

PARKS, BEACH AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Our aquatics world was quite shaken up last winter with the announcement of drastic budget cuts aimed at the pool but thanks to our loyal patrons and restructuring our budgets we have been able to continue to offer many different aquatic services. We are continuing to offer the following programs; American Red Cross Learn to Swim Classes, Scuba, morning and evening water exercise classes, lap swimming 5 nights a week, in the wee hours of the morning on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, along with morning hours on Saturdays and Sundays. Family swim time is offered to the public Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Private rentals of the pool continue to be very popular with most every Saturday and Sunday booked during the winter and fall months. Private schools and local boys and girls scout troops continued to use the facility this past year. Water Safety Instructor Courses and American Red Cross and CPR/FPR training courses were offered in the spring and fall.

The overall beautification of the town beach along with the many heat waves we experienced this past summer helped to increase our daily attendance.

Even though this past year some areas in the department felt the affects of the budget cuts and long range improvements and developments plans have had to be put on the back burner we continue to be able to offer our community a variety of activities aimed at enriching leisure activities for the residents of Belchertown. Enjoyment and safety of the participants in recreational programs will always be our number one goal. By trimming some corners and the invaluable help of volunteers we were still able to hold weeklong clinics this past summer for basketball, baseball, softball, tennis and soccer. Summer programs for ages 3 to 15 increased enrollment in such programs as art classes, baton, Take-A-Hike, wrestling, biking, Canoeing, golfing and jr. bikers. We survived our 10th annual basketball tournament with just a few delays from Mother Nature. The 12th annual baseball tournament was a great success. We enjoyed a beautiful day outdoors in August for our 12th annual golf tournament.

RON CONSTANTINO
RECREATION FACILITY

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the many area businesses that generously donate to our many causes time after time and welcome new sponsors to our family. We greatly appreciate the tremendous amount of time that our coaches, assistant coaches and volunteers unselfishly give to the youth of this community. We acknowledge the assistance we receive from the Maintenance Department, Town Hall offices and the Belchertown School

Department, whose commitment to the residents of the town make it possible for this department to be able to offer a variety of programming.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Opalenik
Recreation Director

PLANNING BOARD

Residential development in 2002 remained consistent with recent years. The Inspection Services report has a breakdown of building permits issued for the year. Non-residential development also continued to increase. The Planning Board reviewed applications and plans that included an industrial expansion, several commercial expansions, and new commercial projects.

The Planning Board continues to encourage the community to get more involved in guiding the direction of the town's growth. There is much going on and everyone is affected.

Development Activity

Subdivision Approval Not Required (ANR): Any time someone is to change a property line, even if the same person owns the two adjoining lots, the plan must be endorsed by the Planning Board and recorded at the Hampshire Registry of Deeds. If the change does not create a new building lot, or if it does create a building lot but each new lot has the required frontage on an existing public street, subdivision approval is not required. The Planning Board must simply endorse the plan indicating that it does not create a subdivision.

106 new building lots were created along existing town roads through ANR plans. This is sixty more ANR lots than last year. There were numerous other ANR plans submitted that simply moved property lines without creating new building lots. The new building lots were created as listed:

South Gulf Road.........	13
Bardwell Street	9
Cordner Street	7
North Liberty Street	7
South Washington Street	6
Alden Avenue	5
Federal Street	5
Underwood Street.......	5
Franklin Street...........	4
Granby Road.............	4
Sabin Street	4
Shea Avenue	4
Spring Hill Road	4
North Washington Street	3
South Liberty Street	3
South Street	3
George Hannum Road..	2
Gulf Road	2
Lexington Drive.........	2
Nathanial Way...........	2
Ware Road	2
Allen Road	1
Goodell Street	1
Ludlow Road	1
Maplecrest Drive........	1
Michael Sears Road	1
Mill Valley Road........	1
Rockrimmon Road......	1
Springfield Road	1
Turkey Hill Road	1
West Street...............	1

Preliminary Subdivision Plans: the Planning Board reviewed four preliminary subdivision plans during 2002. A preliminary subdivision plan is an opportunity for a developer and the Planning Board to negotiate a project in its early stages before the binding obligations of a definitive subdivision submittal. Preliminary plans are not required for residential subdivisions, but are required for all non-residential subdivisions. A preliminary plan in many ways protects a developer by prompting a "freeze" on certain regulatory changes that may take effect within a certain amount of time. As long as the preliminary plan is followed by the submittal of a definitive plan within seven months, changes such as zoning or subdivision regulations do not apply to that project. This is true even if the Planning Board does not approve a preliminary plan. Of the four preliminary plans reviewed in 2002, one was commercial and the rest were plans for residential subdivisions.

Definitive Subdivision Plans: Four definitive subdivision plans were reviewed during 2002. Two of these plans were approved; one was denied, corrected by the applicant, then approved; the other was denied. A fifth subdivision, approved in 2001, was formally endorsed this year. The two approved are Concord Road and Helen Lane. Concord Road is an 800-foot road connecting Old Amherst Road to a large subdivision in Amherst. There may be one or two lots in Belchertown. Helen Lane is a nine-lot dead-end off Summit Street. This has dedicated open space surrounding the house lots. Meadowview, off Gold Street, was denied, corrected, and then approved. This is for eleven lots. It has been appealed. The Belchertown Business Center, Center Street, off Main Street, was approved last year. The applicant submitted the approved plans for endorsement this year.

The Planning Board monitored eleven other subdivisions under construction during 2002. Performance guarantee exchanges, plan modifications and extensions for subdivisions were processed.

Completed Subdivisions:
One subdivision was completed in 2002. This is Two Ponds Road, off Federal Street near the Amherst line. Two Ponds Road was accepted as a town road at the December 2, 2002, town meeting.

Other Development Reviews:
The Planning Board reviewed several site plans and special permit applications. Site plans included an expansion of a manufacturing plant, addition to storage units, expansion of a tractor dealership, and a retail center. The Planning Board granted a special permit for an age-restricted fifty-five-and-over housing complex off Federal Street, and a special permit for a six-lot common drive off Cordner Street.

Planning Projects and Recommendations

The *Belchertown Community Plan* was completed and adopted in October. The Community Plan is the town's master plan according to Mass. General Law. The Community Plan Steering Committee, who presented it to the Planning Board at a public hearing, guided the plan. This was the result of a three-year process of research and gathering of public opinion. The process included a survey, public forums, and many volunteers giving many hours to the town. A team of volunteer scribes who deserve recognition for their work wrote the plan:

Julie Peck
Tibby Chase
Paula Davitt
Shannon Synan
Jim Barry
Bill Cary
Cliff McCarthy
Gail Grammarossa

LandUse, Inc., was the town's consultant for the Community Plan. LandUse's Jeanne Armstrong led the public forums and coached the scribes in their efforts. We were fortunate to have such good leadership and counsel. Because of the extensive volunteer effort, Belchertown's master plan was done for less than a third of what most towns spend on a master plan. The Community Plan is available on compact disc. Limited copies were printed because of the expense. We expect the plan to be linked to the town's web site this next year.

The Planning Board recommended some revisions to the zoning bylaw to town meeting. These included some changes to the schedule of uses to allow more business opportunities, clarifying the earth removal section, and changing zoning along an area of State Street to Limited Business. Other parties requested changes to the zoning bylaw, which requires the Planning Board to hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to town meeting. The Planning Board does not sponsor nor support every proposed change to the zoning bylaw or map.

The Planning Board assisted a UMass landscape architecture class that developed a conceptual regional "greenway", or open space and recreation, plan. This was a class exercise that board members offered coaching and criticism toward.

The Planning Department managed the commonwealth's Executive Order 418 programs. EO 418 was issued by Governor Cellucci and continued by Governor Swift. Though this formally is under the Selectmen, the Planning Department is overseeing it. It has two components: one is what is called "affordable" housing; the other is for planning services. The housing component requires each town and city to be certified annually to show that progress is being made to add "affordable" housing – the definition is loose, in that "affordable" in this program is anything less than $249,000. The penalty for the town not being certified is that we would be scored negatively in application for any grants administered by the state. As the library, EDIC, and other groups in town apply for such grants, it is important that we keep certified. The planning component of EO 418 has more to offer the town. From this we will receive consultant services up to $30,000 in value from the state. This is more than was spent on the entire Community Plan. We received approval from the state to begin this work, which will be done during 2003. This project enables us to immediately work on one of the main priorities identified in the Community Plan. We will be developing a specific plan for the wider area around the center of town – from Turkey Hill Road, to Ware Road, to Pelham Road, to Bay Road, and including the state school and common. We expect tangible recommendations from this plan regarding traffic flow, economic development, community open spaces, historic preservation, and alternative housing opportunities. The Selectmen will lead this project, and it will include the EDIC, Planning Board, Historic District Bylaw Commission, and others. We encourage the community to follow this and participate.

Compliance With the Belchertown Community Plan

The Planning Board has begun implementing some of the recommendations of the Community Plan. Some of the actions include:

- Recommending a zone change for land along State Street, an area residents determined as desirable for small-scale commercial development. This change to Limited Business was adopted by Town Meeting.
- Revising the Open Space Community Development bylaw to allow cluster subdivisions by right rather than to require a special permit.
- Revised the common drive bylaw.
- Drafting a scenic roads bylaw.
- Working with the EDIC and selectmen on planning for the former state school.

The Town Planner is overseeing development of the town's Geographic Information System (GIS). During 2002, the GIS project involved data maintenance and training, rather than system expansion. The Department of Public Works, Assessing, Conservation, Planning, and Health each had software and data updates, and several days of training. This project will continue until each municipal department is integrated into the system.

Continuous activities of the Planning Office and Planning Board include reviewing and processing plans, monitoring projects, voting on development and land division applications, and making recommendations to the Zoning Board of Appeals and other boards. The Planning Board reviews requests for changes to zones and the zoning by-law and makes zoning recommendations to town meeting. The Planning Board reviews common drive developments, subdivisions, "Approval Not Required" plans, non-residential site plans, earth removal plans, and wireless communication facility plans. The Planning Board also made recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on the town's right of first refusal to purchase land held under Chapter 61 restrictions. The board also advises and assists other town offices, developers, property owners, and the public.

The Town Planner manages the Planning Office and assists the Planning Board in development review, procedural interpretation, and research. The Town Planner also coordinates planning and reviews with other town offices, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, developers, residents, and businesses. The Town Planner maintains contacts with the UMass Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning Department, state agencies, our legislators, professional planning organizations, and planning colleagues.

Board Membership

The Planning Board membership is as follows:

- James Barry, Chair, and Single Signature for "Subdivision Approval Not Required" plans (term expires: 2003);
- James Natle, Clerk (term expires: 2004);
- Daniel Beaudette, Commissioner to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (term expires: 2005);
- Joe Gilman (term expires: 2006);
- Elizabeth Chase, Vice Chair, (re-elected in 2002 -- term expires: 2007);
- George Synan, Alternate Voting Member for Special Permits; (appointed annually)
- Susan Bradway, Associate Member. (appointed annually)
- Carolann Koehler, Associate Member. (appointed annually)

Staff:
Susan Gay is the Planning Board Secretary; Douglas Albertson is the Town Planner and Alternate Commissioner to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Planning Board,
Douglas Albertson, Town Planner

BELCHERTOWN
POLICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department continued to remain proactive in 2002, maintaining a low crime rate and providing quality services to the citizens of Belchertown.

Our communications center received 8184 calls for services; in addition to 1688 emergency 9-1-1 calls. Officers made 326 arrests, for a total of 890 incidents. Officers issued 1830 motor vehicles violations. This included 910 civil violations, 599 warnings, 112 arrests, and 209 criminal violations.

We continue to offer many popular community-policing programs to the community, the RAD, RAD kids programs, and the Citizen Police Academy. The 11-week citizen police academy program enables the residents to meet and be instructed by Belchertown officers about various aspects of police work. The program is offered in the spring and fall of each year. The 2 classes that were held this past year were very successful. This program continues to receive overwhelming response, and continues to be a major component of our department's community policing efforts.

Community policing, and working with local schools and senior citizens continues to be one of our department's priorities. The department continues to assign a full time school resource officer to work within the middle and high school assisting staff and students. The officer has been funded by a grant from the Department of Justice. The D.A.R.E curriculum is being presented at the 5th and 10th grade levels. Both the Police Department and the School department endorse the program and remain committed to teaching our children to resist the dangers of drugs.

The Police Department continues to work with the community's senior population through the T.RI.A.D program and the local S.A.L.T council (seniors and law enforcement working together) The police department has assigned a liaison officer to work with this program

Police officers with cooperation of the Belchertown Recreation Department continue to teach the RAD and RAD kids programs. This program is designed as a personal empowerment safety education program. Women and children continue to receive the program with great enthusiasm. This year the Police Department implemented a high school program for junior and senior woman so they could receive classroom credit for the program.

The Belchertown Police Department this past year had four veteran officers take advantage of the early retirement program. Chief Robert Knight, Lt. William Zobka, Sgt. Ernest M Gay Jr., and Officer Winthrop Kellogg all retired after many years of dedicated service to the Belchertown community.

The Police Department also appointed a new Chief of Police, Francis R. Fox Jr. Chief Fox replaced retiring Chief Robert A. Knight on December 31, 2002.

The Belchertown Police Department continues to strive to make this community viable for residency and business growth through the service of public safety to the community. The cooperative efforts and partnership of all town departments, government and especially our community residents is appreciated and helps the Police Department best address the needs of public safety.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis R. Fox Jr.
Chief of Police

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Department of Public Works completed another exciting and productive year in 2002. On the heals of budget cuts, increased expenses and additional responsibilities, this almost proved to be an impossible task. Each division within the department was required to evaluate and prioritize their efforts to keep the impacts to a minimum. As a result, our focus shifted from many of the projects we have been planning to the tremendous amount of routine maintenance we perform on a daily basis. Consequently, the following reports outlining each division's projects are noticeably reduced from the preceding years.

Highway Division

The Highway Department was heavily impacted by the FY03 budget cuts in 2002. Although we recovered some of the lost funding at the December 12, 2002 Special Town Meeting, we still lost one position. Further limiting our ability to provide an effective road maintenance program is the reduction of our yearly state aid, increased inflation, aging equipment, and expanded responsibilities. As a result, the routine maintenance provided by this division was reduced, and many projects were put onto the back burner. However, we were still able to perform our yearly street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, sign installation, pothole patching, line painting, and some drainage improvements.

In addition, the Highway Division also began the resurfacing of the section of Springfield Road from North Washington Street to the new high school. This will require the placement of over 4,000 feet of drainpipe, the installation of 38 catch basins, the construction of a storm water detention basin, and the construction of a new sidewalk along the entire length of the project. This division was also responsible for the construction of a passive gas venting system at the Town's Landfill.

Tree and Vegetation Control

Once again, this year's greatest activity within the area of tree and vegetation control is removals. Large quantities of Eastern White Ash, Sugar Maples, Elm, and Hemlock trees continue to become victims of various afflictions; and required removal. This activity has increased from year to year and, unfortunately, due to our limited resources, a replacement program has been nonexistent. However, we remain hopeful this trend will reverse itself and we will be able to implement an aggressive replacement program in the future.

Buildings Division

The Buildings Maintenance Division also had to overcome obstacles that budget cuts and an increased workload created throughout 2002. With the maintenance responsibility for all of the Town owned buildings, not under the jurisdiction of the School Department, very little free time was available for additional projects. However, this division still managed to complete an impressive list of projects. This includes the following:

- Painting at Lawrence Memorial Hall
- Installation of new carpets in various locations within Lawrence Memorial Hall
- Repairs to the roof at the Recreation Department building
- Replacement of the roof at the Belchertown Day School
- Installation of a new flag pole at Lawrence Memorial Hall
- The removal of underground fuel storage tanks, and the installation of above ground fuel storage tanks at the Emergency Medical Services building, the Old Town Hall, and Lawrence Memorial Hall
- Interior rehabilitation of Finnerty House in preparation of the reuse by the Town Administrator's office.

Cemetery Division

2002 was another busy year for the Cemetery Division, with 35 burials, 18 of which being cremations. Other activities included lot sales and development, ground maintenance, housekeeping and head stone repairs.

In addition, the Lake Vale Cemetery expansion was finally completed, and, as expected, citizens began purchasing lots. In total 33 of the 236 graves have been sold.

Transfer Station

Activity at the Town's Transfer Station/Recycling Center steadily increased throughout 2002. Approximately 1,662 households participated in our program generating the following quantities:

- 22 tons of plastic
- 498 tons of paper & cardboard
- 121 tons of glass & metal
- 2,120 gallons of waste oil
- 265 tires
- 824 tons of solid waste

Wastewater Treatment Plant

During 2002 the staff at the Town's Water Reclamation Facility continued to strive for the highest quality of effluent possible. With 71,100,000 gallons of raw sewerage entering the facility, they were busy. Some of the required activities associated with this include: collection system maintenance, sampling and laboratory analysis, buildings and grounds maintenance, general housekeeping, machinery maintenance, DEP training, process control, and sewer connection inspections.

This division also had an exciting and productive year with its projects. We achieved final completion of the new sewer installation at the Pine Valley Plantation Mobile Home Park, Springfield Road and Stadler Street areas. The electrical work associated with the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade has been progressing steadily; and the first pipes for the Tri-Lakes Sewer Project were installed late in the year. This project, estimated at $7.7 million, will continue until its expected completion in the spring 2004.

Grounds Division

The Grounds Division was the only division within the department that actually received an increase in its resources during 2002. This was due to the addition of approximately 30 acres of grounds at the Town's new high school. This division is now responsible for the maintenance of more than 220 acres of grounds that are located around the schools, cemeteries, and the other municipal facilities. Their responsibilities include: preparing playing fields for use, removing excess brush to vegetation, mowing, aerating, overseeding, fertilizing, shrub pruning, equipment maintenance and the removal of snow and ice from the Town's sidewalks. Unfortunately, this volume of work is still well beyond our resources. Consequently, only 14.24 acres received fertilization and overseeding this year.

Concluding Statement

2002 will be a memorable year for the Department of Public Works. We were able to achieve success in spite of setbacks, and an increasing workload. I can only attribute this to the dedication of our staff. In one way or another they have all provided a valuable service to the Town which sometimes goes virtually unnoticed, and is often taken for granted. Consequently, I would like to recognize the following employees for their service:

- Cheryl Bishop, Administrative Assistant
- Eric Markham, Highway Division Supervisor
- Walter Bosworth, Highway Division Foreman
- Robert Cole, Sr., Heavy Equipment Operator II
- Scott Ingram, Heavy Equipment Operator II
- Denis Lessard, Heavy Equipment Operator I
- Michael Ladue, Heavy Equipment Operator I
- Thomas Kirley, Heavy Equipment Operator I
- Edward Burton, Heavy Equipment Operator I
- Edward Forgette, Highway Division Mechanic
- Max Bock, Buildings Maintenance Supervisor
- Kevin Brown, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor
- Michelle Burns, Buildings Custodian
- Deborah Giammarino, Buildings Custodian
- Leo Peet, Maintenance Worker
- Sean Madden, Maintenance Laborer
- Darin Braese, Maintenance Laborer
- David Clegg, Temporary Maintenance Laborer
- Rollin Dewitt, WWTP Operations Supervisor
- Terry Chevalier, WWTP Operator II
- David Wanczyk, WWTP Operator
- Scott Hennessey, WWTP Operator I

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Williams
Director of Public Works

QUABBIN HEALTH DISTRICT

The Quabbin Health District is a regional health department serving the communities of Belchertown, Ware, and Pelham. It was established by town meeting vote in 1980 and is the joint effort of the local Boards of Health to provide their towns with public health professionals and services. Our primary duties center on enforcing provisions of the State Sanitary Code and Environmental Code under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health. We also provide technical assistance and educational services to residents and other municipal departments. The Quabbin Health District serves a total population of approximately 25,000 residents in an area of about 120 square miles in Hampshire County. The following table lists the major inspection services provided to each town in the District during 2002.

	Belcher-town	Ware	Pelham
Perc Test/ Deepholes & Soil Evaluations	199	105	18
Septic App. Review (New Const)	96	59	5
Septic App. Rev.(Repair)	63	27	10
Septic Installation, Inspect. & Re-inspect.	138	60	12
Well App. Review	103	N/A	6
Housing Insp. (upon complaint) & Re-inspections	22	83	7
Rental Voucher Inspections (upon request)	0	16	0
Lead Paint Inspections	0	2	0
Condemnation (# of units)	0	3	0
Mobile Temp. Food Insp.	30	15	0
Nuisance Inspections	7	11	1
Court Appearances	0	7	0
Housing Hearings	0	4	0
Recreational Camp Insp.	0	0	0
Tanning Salon Inspections	3	5	0
Massage Therapy Insp.	6	2	0
Tattoo Insp.	0	1	0
Pool Inspections	2	0	N/A
Beaver Com-plaints	5	3	0
Board Meetings	11	10	8

Total: 1367

Revenue Generated by Activities: Totals Per Town

Number of activities performed in Belchertown:	760
Amount of revenue generated in Belchertown	$ 57,259.00
Amount submitted to the Belchertown Treasurer:	$ 57,259.00
Number of activities performed in Ware	537
Amount of revenue generated in Ware	$52,444.00
Amount submitted to the Ware Treasurer:	$52,444.00
Number of activities performed in Pelham:	70
Amount of revenue generated in Pelham	$ 2,345.00
Amount submitted to the Pelham Treasurer:	$ 2,345.00

In addition, The Quabbin Health District Board of Directors met during 2002. Agenda items discussed were the 2003 budget, town assessments, the rising cost of health insurance and pension cost, early retirement incentive, upgrading the District personnel handbook, and the interview process for replacing retirees. The Board of Directors is composed of the elected Board of Health members from all three communities within the District. The meeting place rotates among the three Town Halls.

District employees serve on a number of committees and advisory groups, including the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust Advisory Committee, and The Americans with Disabilities Committee.

An ongoing activity of personnel is to participate in continuing education seminars and training sessions sponsored by various Federal and State agencies as well as professional groups. In the year 2002, much focus was placed on emergency event training and preparation. Staff received training in bioterrorism, emergency management, radioactive exposures and a special focus was placed on Small Pox Pre-event Planning.

The end of 2002 marked the retirement of Helen Kutt from her position as Administrative Assistant/Treasurer's Agent. Helen served the District for over 20 years, since its inception. We all greatly appreciate Helen's dedication and wish her the very best in her new endeavors.

I would like to thank members of the District Board of Directors for their continued support. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and effort shown by my co-workers: Randall Gauley, Health Inspector; Betty Barlow, Administrative Assistant; Deborah Beaulieu, Senior Clerk.

Sincerely,
Judy Metcalf, R.S., C.H.O.
Director of Public Health
Quabbin Health District

BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Report

The 2002 school year could be characterized as placing a priority on improving student achievement, opening a new facility and updating an old facility for the future, and facing the challenge of an all-time high student enrollment of 2,450 in combination with the identification of sufficient revenue to support an adequate budget to maintain a high level of quality instruction and other services. I have included several major highlights in my report for your information.

Regarding student achievement based on statewide test standards, Belchertown Public Schools continued to perform well in 2002. Based on the MCAS 2002 test results, Belchertown students performed above the state average in seven of the nine content areas tested and reported by the state. As a school district, 96% of all Belchertown students passed the Reading/English/Language Arts MCAS tests, 75% of all Belchertown students passed the Mathematics MCAS tests, and 78% passed the History & Social Science MCAS tests. As a comparison, only 58% of students, statewide, passed the History & Social Science MCAS tests. Belchertown School District's overall MCAS trend identified more students moving up into the Advanced and Proficient categories than in the previous years tested. Of special note, Belchertown High School was ranked #1 in English/Language Arts MCAS test scores and was ranked #5 in Mathematics MCAS test scores when compared to all public high schools in western Massachusetts. In addition, the school district continued to utilize its new software to track both group and individual student MCAS scores and to provide specific data to identify school district strengths and weaknesses; including providing individual student reports for the state required Individual Student Success Plans. Both the purchase price of the software and stipends for selected faculty to utilize the software was funded through a grant. Regarding our school district's main focus on the area requiring the most significant improvement, emphasis continued to be placed on improving student achievement at the primary, elementary and middle school levels in mathematics. Belchertown continued to follow the statewide trend, which indicated that students throughout the Commonwealth found the MCAS Mathematics Test to be very challenging. Of final note was the receipt of an excellent first year formal state report card on the school district regarding MCAS tests results. The new state report card was part of the new accountability system which graded school districts on progress made related to students achieving proficiency on the MCAS test. As a school district, Belchertown was Above Target in English/Language Arts (earning a High Performance Improvement Rating) and On Target in Mathematics (earning a Moderate Performance Improvement Rating). In English/Language Arts, the state set the minimum improvement target for Belchertown at 82.0; up from last years' earned 80.7. Belchertown, however, earned a high 86.8, or improved by 6.1. In Mathematics, the state set the improvement target for Belchertown at 69.0; up from last year's earned 65.6. Belchertown however earned a high 70.3, or improved by 4.7.

Concerning facilities, Belchertown School District's Central Office personnel spent a significant amount of time working with the BHS Building Committee and with the high school administration and staff to open the new Belchertown High School on time (i.e., to open for the 2002-2003 school year). BHS administration, staff, students, and volunteers from the community worked extremely hard to packed-up the old high school in time for the move scheduled soon after the doors closed on June 13th. And on June 28th and June 29th, the old BHS officially moved into the new BHS 1,000 student, 176,825 square foot facility. The BHS administration and many staff members continued to work over the summer to put everything in its proper place so that the opening of the new school would go as smooth as possible. Special thanks go out to BHS Principal Christine Parzych and to her dedicated staff for the many extra hours donated to make the move timely and the opening successful. The second major facility task was to continue to search for capital funds to bring Jabish Brook Middle School (i.e., the old Belchertown High School) up to code for possible future reoccupation according to the following approved grade level realignment:

Current Facilities/Current Grade Level Status	**Future Facilities/New Grade Level Assignments**
New High School	New Belchertown High School (9-12)
Current High School (9-12)	New Middle School (7-8) – Jabish Brook Middle School
Current Middle School (6-8) – Chestnut Hill Community School	New Intermediate School (4-6) – Chestnut Hill Community School
Current Elementary School (3-5) – Swift River Elementary School	Remain as Elementary School (1-3) – Swift River Elementary School
Current Primary School (K-2) – Cold Spring Primary School	New Early Childhood Center (PreK & K) – Cold Spring Early Childhood Center
Current Tadgell Primary School (1-2) – Tadgell Primary School	Student Enrollment Overflow, Second Early Childhood Center, Expanded Programs, Altern. Programs, etc. – Tadgell Hall School
Berkshire Primary School (1-2)	To be returned to the Town as soon as possible

As the result of submitting a successful Federal Renovation Grant application and receiving matching town funds approved at Special Town Meeting, $556,710 was identified to replace all classroom ventilators, to replace damaged classroom floor tiles, to replace hallway doors not meeting fire code, and to upgrade the fire suppression system.

Finally, the school district, with continued support from its citizens, successfully faced the challenge of finding sufficient revenue to support an adequate budget for the 2002-2003 school year to maintain a level of quality instruction and to continue to provide other important services for an all-time high student enrollment of 2,450. Facing required budget reductions totaling $1,623,066 (i.e., a -9% reduction from the requested level-service budget), an additional $500,000 voted at the annual Spring Town Meeting, another $350,000 voted during the Winter Special Town Meeting, a slight increase in Chapter 70 School Aid of $174,445, an increase in user fees of $211,582, and the elimination of 13 employee positions, allowed the school district to reach the budget target recommended by the Town Finance Committee.

As you continue to read this report, you will be informed about many of the specific happenings and accomplishments within the school department and at all the school levels within the Belchertown School District. Thank you for your continued support of the Belchertown Public Schools.

School Business Manager's Report

During 2002, the citizens of Belchertown continued to provide strong financial support for their schools by once again voting for a school budget in excess of the minimum contribution required by the Department of Education. The school district's effective procedures for monitoring the spending of the budget for 2002, allowed the financial resources to be used as requested in the approved budget.

The custodial and maintenance staff, led by Robert Lachance, Director of Buildings and Grounds, is to be commended for their effort in the opening of the new Belchertown High School in 2002. The opening of the new high school created many changes in the assignments of the custodial and maintenance staff and the staff adapted well while making a smooth transition. With the transition of the new high school, the custodial staff continued to maintain all the schools at a high standard of cleanliness. Belchertown Public Schools received a competitive Federal Renovation Grant for $556,710 to bring Jabish Brook Middle School up to building code for reoccupation in the future. The grant includes a significant matching contribution by the Town of Belchertown of $168,460. The grant will begin to support the implementation of the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan developed by the Belchertown Public Schools.

The food service staff, led by Maureen Jagodowski, Director of Food Services, is also to be commended for their effort in the opening of the new Belchertown High School in 2002. The opening of the new high school created many changes to the assignments of the food service staff and the food service staff adapted to making a smooth transition. The Belchertown School Lunch Program continued to maintain participation above the state average through the efforts of the hardworking food service staff. The Board of Health continued to praise the schools for their model kitchens. Through their commitment, the food service staff received the serve-safe certification above the state requirement.

Belchertown Public Schools also continued to provide bus transportation for all students. First Student transported all regular education students to and from the schools. The First Student bus drivers are also to be commended for their effort with the changes in the traffic flow created by the opening of the new high school. Van Pool provided the transportation for special education students. Bus transportation continued to be provided for students participating in after school activities and high school athletics.

Pupil-Personnel Services (Special Education) Director's Report

The 2002 school year was a year of continued growth and development for the Pupil Personnel Department. As of December 1, 2002, there were 331 special needs students, 102 Title 1 students, 11 students receiving English as a Second Language (ESL) services, and 97 students receiving services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act in the Belchertown Public School System. The vast majority of these students were serviced through programs provided within the school district. These in-district programs include supported inclusionary teaching models at the primary, elementary and intermediate levels. In addition to the supported inclusion teaching programs, we also offered learning centers at the elementary level and resource rooms at the intermediate level. Additional programs included a Learning Skills Program at Belchertown High School; Language Learning Programs at both the Middle School and High School; a School-to-Work Partnership program at the High School; and an integrated Early Childhood Program, an autism spectrum Early Childhood Program, and an Early Childhood Language Program, all located at Swift River Elementary School. These programs, plus our therapeutic programs, serviced special needs students between the ages of 3 - 22 years of age inclusive. Therapeutic programs include Speech/Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Adaptive Physical Education. With the assistance of our integration specialist, several students who otherwise would be placed in out-of-district placements were currently being educated in their local schools with support services.

Title 1, ESL and Section 504 services were offered to students who qualified under federal and state guidelines for additional support services. These services were provided in a variety of settings utilizing specialized materials and instruction.

In conclusion, it is important to note that the high quality Special Education, Title 1, ESL, and Section 504 services provided to the students of Belchertown were made possible through the dedication and expertise of both our special education and regular education administration, faculty, staff.

Primary Schools Principal's Report

The 2002 school year witnessed our three primary schools (Berkshire, Tadgell, and Cold Spring) accommodating over 575 students in kindergarten, first, and second grade. A well-defined inter-active curriculum complemented by a dedicated and progressive teaching staff continued to be invaluable in providing an effective and relevant educational program for our youngest children. The primary schools continued to be recognized for their friendly, nurturing and positive learning environments. Developmentally appropriate instruction, featuring innovative teaching practices, enabled our students to achieve and grow at their own optimal levels.

Many grants and supplemental programs coordinated by dedicated volunteers, grandparents, and outside services, enhanced our early childhood curriculum. The Full Day Kindergarten Program piloted last year, expanded to include four full day classrooms this year. The Readiness and Curriculum Committees will continued to review and refine this program as we moved toward NAEYC accreditation (National Association for the Education of Young Children). Several goals outlined in the School Improvement Plan were successfully achieved. Writing across the curriculum, differentiated instruction and the recently adopted math series, Everyday Mathematics, continued to be emphasized and supported as high priorities. Concerted efforts were also made in collecting authentic assessments yielding data that allowed us to modify, individualize and improve our instructional programs and practices. As a result, a Report Card Committee created and developed a new standards-based reporting system for students in kindergarten, first and second grade.

The Primary School Council members remained active participants in revising, and refining the School Improvement Plan. Sarah Workman; Co-Chair and Parent Representative, and Susan Kenney, a Teacher Representative, both serving for the past three years resigned in June 2002. Their years of dedicated service and countless contributions are praiseworthy. Maria Scudere Weiss became the new Co-Chair and Parent Representative. Laura Griffin and Denise Smith became Parent Representatives while James Lafley continued to serve as the Community Representative. Marnie Henneman and Heidi Oldenburg were Teacher Representatives; Richard White became the School Committee Liaison, and Sandra Bremer, the Principal, served as the Co-Chair. This particular council remained supportive of the "Home School Connection" initiative and sponsored several events and community-oriented activities to promote family involvement within the educational process.

A new Assistant Principal, Betsy M. Cooper, was appointed to the position in August of 2002. She possessed many admirable talents and strengths acquired as the primary schools' guidance counselor over the past three years. Alessandra Mucci, our newly appointed guidance counselor, brought unique ideas, creative qualifications, and a diverse new perspective to our school system. Both Betsy and Alessandra helped to form a very dynamic professional team working collectively to provide and maintain the best educational practices and programs for our primary level students at Berkshire, Tadgell and Cold Spring Schools.

Swift River Elementary School Principal's Report

During the 2002 school year, the Swift River School Community continued to be a caring, respectful, dynamic, and to provide a safe environment for faculty, staff and students. We were saddened this fall by the passing of Herman Bowden, a Belchertown resident and teacher in the Belchertown School District for the past 29 years. Herman was honored by the class of 1993, by being asked to be one of the commencement speakers for their graduation.

Much of our time continued to be focused on implementing curriculum and effective practices and strategies aligned with the Educational Reform Act of 1993 and the re-authorization of the Educational Secondary and Elementary Act 2003. (No Child Left Behind) One of our top priorities was for the classroom teachers to better familiarize themselves with the instructional approaches of the Everyday Math Program. This program provided a design to develop the skills required by the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks and outlined strategies to meet the needs of all types of students. Our belief was that this new approach to the study of mathematics would assist in improving our MCAS math scores. Improved mathematics instruction had been intentionally aligned with one of Mr. Millett's (Principal) and Mrs. MacKenzie-Rodgers' (Asst. Principals) instructional goals for teachers as part of the teacher evaluation process. Elementary school scores from the spring 2002 testing show some weakness in the content area of mathematics. Although still too early for the Everyday Math program to have an effect on the scores, our hope remains that within 3-5 years we will see a strong upward scoring pattern due to the new math series. The scores for the English/Language Arts portion of the MCAS were wonderful. We were proud to announce that we had a 95% passing score for the spring 2002 testing at Swift River Elementary School. This was an extremely high score and we all celebrated our students' success.

Despite the continued financial challenges, all school administration, faculty, and staff did their outmost to provide a most successful educational experience for each and every child at Swift River Elementary School.

To ensure that our school remained a caring environment for all children, students participated in the "Second Step" and "Steps to Respect" anti-bullying curricula that was taught by each teacher. An anti-bullying policy was signed by every student and parent/guardian. We also had both a formal "coaching" program as well as a "peer mediation training" program related to our anti-bulling initiative. Swift River Elementary School was able to utilize the services of the Community Police Officer as a presence during the mediations.

In order to convey a strong sense of patriotism and thankfulness, a flag quilt was created to commemorate the events of September 11, 2001. All together, over 600 students from Swift River Elementary School and the Hampshire Educational Collaborative, along with parent volunteers, created and sewed the pieces together. The quilt was permanently displayed in Swift River Elementary School. We were proud to announce that the quilt was awarded the Belchertown Fair's People Choice Award.

We had many memorable programs during 2002: the September 11th Remembrance Day, a Veteran's Day celebration, and a Holiday Sing-Along. We also had WGBY television station tape a segment of their children's program "Zoom" at Swift River.

The Swift River Elementary Council reviewed and updated our School Improvement Plan, which was approved by the School Committee in November. This year's council was comprised of Lisa Bombard, Parent Representative and Co-Chair; Dianne Magee, Community Representative; Darlene Pelkey, Teacher Representative; Rose Luippold, Parent Representative; Sarah Workman, Parent Representative; Nancy Kwiatkowski, Teacher Representative; and Gary Millett, Chair and Principal.

We were fortunate to have three new staff members at Swift River: Wendy Bowers in the office, Carol Whalen, a Grade five teacher, and Barb MacKenzie-Rodgers the new Assistance Principal.

Chestnut Hill Community School Principal's Report

During the 2002 school year, the Chestnut Hill Community School serviced over 600 students in grades 6, 7, & 8. The mission of our school was to provide students with a comprehensive educational experience that was academically excellent, developmentally responsive, and socially equitable. We strived to achieve these through an academic program that included instruction in Mathematics, English, Social Studies, Science and Foreign Language. Also, students participated in a full exploratory program, which introduced them to technology through computer instruction and the application of different programs. In the Industrial Technology classes, students learned scientific principles and how to apply them as they built hot air balloons, mouse trap cars, ergonomic figures, and much more. Also, student creativity fostered through Art, Music, and Physical Education.

A major change during the year was the implementation of a new mathematics series in all three grades. The teachers evaluated several series and selected Middle School Math by Scott Foresman – Addison Wesley and the Connected Math Project by Dale Seymore Publications. The combination of these two approaches/programs in math instruction were a good match for our curriculum and effectively supported our on-going efforts to improve student math skills.

The After School Program continued to be a shining example of how quality extended day activities can positively impact on students. Our Homework Club provided students with the support they needed in a controlled environment to keep up with the many academic challenges of being in middle school. We were extremely pleased with our enrichment activities such as creative writing, which led to numerous individuals having their work featured in the Sentinel; the Drama Club presentation of, "Anne of Green Gables"; and our Chess Club that sponsored a regional USCF Chess Tournament. All of these and many other activities provided students with the opportunity to excel and to develop interests that they will pursue for many years.

Chestnut Hill wasn't immune to the budget woes that faced the school department. As a result of the budget challenge, we had to merge the Home and Consumer Education Program with our Health Program. We also had to eliminate the 7th grade foreign language program, and reduce one 6th grade teacher and one special education teacher.

We were extremely proud of the spirit that our students showed in reaching out to help others. The 7th grade championed the causes of "Save the Rainforest" and "Heifer International" by raising money to purchase land and livestock. The Western Mass Food Bank and the local Open Pantries were the recipients of a large quantity of food and monetary donations from several collection events. The 8th grade Band made a special trip to Westover Air Force Base to help welcome home reservists who had served our country abroad. They performed a Concert that was full of patriotic tunes and crowd favorites as families waited for their loved ones to arrive by plane from overseas.

The Chestnut Hill Community School Council completed the annual review and update of its School Improvement Plan, which was approved by the Belchertown School Committee. Special attention was given to transition plans for the eventual move of the 7th and 8th grade to Jabish Brook Middle School. The Council members were Susan Lattanzi, Susan MacDonnell, Florine Neggers, Donna Skibel, Jeanne White, Keith Poulin, Diane Brown, and Jean Serafino.

The 2002 school year was very successful due to our hardworking students, highly motivated teachers, and the wonderful support of our parents and community

BELCHERTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Belchertown High School Principal's Report

The 2002 school year was a very busy year for the administration, faculty, staff, and students at Belchertown High School. Not only did we complete our last year at 62 North Washington Street, we prepared for our move to 142 Springfield Road. It was a very exciting time for everyone. In addition to thinking about the move to our new facility and all that that huge endeavor entailed, we continued to be very involved in a variety of activities.

In January, faculty, staff, and students welcomed the Class of 2006 and their parents to an orientation program. Parents were given the opportunity to meet with all of the teachers to discuss course offerings, expectations, and their thoughts on the new facility. Members of the Class of 2006 were able to meet with current students to discuss their experiences at Belchertown High School. This orientation program was very well attended and you could feel the excitement as people viewed the plans and the video of the new school. A successful orientation program such as this one would not be possible without the dedication and enthusiasm of the faculty and students at Belchertown High School. They showed the Class of 2006 and their parents what a very special place Belchertown High School is.

In February, we held our Black History Month celebration. Thanks to an outstanding committee made up of Mrs. MaryEllen O'Reilly Bracey, Ms. Colleen Bracey, Reverend Todd Farnsworth, Ms. Lori Vaz, and Mrs. Christine Holesovsky, a variety of events took place throughout the month. Selected quotes from famous Black Americans were hung throughout the building and an assembly celebrating Black History month was held for juniors and seniors. Reverend Todd Farnsworth and Reverend Jeffrey Thomas were presenters at this assembly.

On March 11, 2002, an Evening of Remembrance was held in the Robert B. Byard Gymnasium. This program recognized the six-month anniversary of the tragic events that took place in our nation and our dear friend and colleague, Mr. Shaun Bresnahan. Speakers from the federal, state, and local levels were in attendance. The concert and symphony bands' and wind ensemble's performances of patriotic and Irish music were very moving. The Community Chorus sang beautifully. Ms. Kristin Bock's tenth grade poetry class read poems that they had written commemorating the events of September 11th. Over 1000 people were in attendance at this very special event. Red, white and blue ribbon tied with a green ribbon were handed out to all those who attended. The Bresnahan family was presented with a plaque that read – "Enthusiastic Teacher, Experienced Leader, and Supportive Friend". This was a very special evening, which will always hold a special place in our hearts, as will the events of September 11th, 2001.

April was a very busy month at BHS. The Pops Concert was held on two nights instead of one. Both nights were sold out shows. Mr. Michael Bauer, Mr. Lloyd Armstrong, Mr. Nathan Holesovsky, Ms. Erin Lylis, and Mrs. MaryEllen O'Reilly Bracey are to be commended for the work they do with their students. The 230 students who performed were so very talented. They all provided the audience with a wonderful evening of music. In May, the Belchertown Oriole Marching Band attended the Music Showcase Festival in Cleveland, Ohio. Once again, the band earned many awards for their performances. What a proud moment for Mr. Bauer, the chaperones, and all the students as the band officers were called up to the stage over and over again to receive trophies. On his first day back to school after the band trip, Mr. Bauer was in for a big surprise. He had been chosen as the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year. With this honor came a $1,000.00 check for the band program and a big party for Mr. Bauer and the Band. It was a very fitting tribute for Mr. Bauer, a truly exceptional teacher who has done so much for all of his students and the music program over the years.

On June 1st, the Class of 2002 became the last class to graduate from 62 North Washington Street. It was a beautiful ceremony complete with excellent speeches from Class President Kevin Barry, Valedictorian Andre Michaud, Salutatorian Danae Dupras, and commencement speaker, Mr. Jason Woodcock. Mr. Donald Geer, the first principal at the 62 North Washington Street location, brought smiles to everyone's face in the crowd as he spoke of the move to 62 North Washington Street. The ceremony concluded with bringing back the tradition of singing the alma mater. Mr. Geer led the Class of 2002 and the alumni in the audience. The graduation ceremony was simply wonderful – one of the finest in the area!

On Thursday, June 13th, the doors closed at Belchertown High School at 62 North Washington Street. It was a bittersweet day for the faculty, staff, and students. This school had housed so many wonderful memories over the past forty years. A real sense of community had been built at this school. It was on this day that a double rainbow appeared over 62 North Washington Street – how fitting for such a very special place. We were sad but also very excited for our new school at 142 Springfield Road!

The entire summer was devoted to moving into our new building. On June 28th, three tractor-trailers were lined up at 62 North Washington Street ready to load the thousands of boxes that were going to our new building. It was a hot and humid Friday afternoon but the entire community came out to help with this monumental task. The boxes were loaded onto the trucks in less than three hours thanks to everyone's hard work. The next huge task would take place on Saturday as these trucks were unloaded at the new school and boxes were placed in the proper classrooms. Hundreds of administrators, teachers, students, parents, and community members came out to help on Saturday. Once again because of all of this support and cooperation, this job was completed in less than four hours. It was so nice to see so many people come out to help with this community wide event. Because of all of the donations and volunteerism, the entire move cost the school district only $50! This was a real tribute to the community sprit that Belchertown possesses.

After the move was complete, faculty, staff, and students began coming in to unpack. Our new school was simply beautiful. We all felt so fortunate. Community tours brought in thousands of people who wanted to see the school. BHS students and teachers served as excellent tour guides. Four separate orientation programs were held for the Classes of 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006. Students simply could not believe their eyes when they walked in to their new high school. They were amazed and excited and were eagerly looking forward to opening day on August 29th. The big day finally arrived. Everyone was dressed in their first day of school outfits. The excitement on both faculty and students' faces as they arrived that morning was priceless. For the first time, the entire student body, faculty, and staff were able to gather in our auditorium for an opening day convocation ceremony. There was so much sprit and enthusiasm in that auditorium – it was contagious!

Belchertown High School's ribbon cutting
Photo courtesy of Beverly Ducharme

On October 19th, our new Belchertown High School was officially dedicated. It was a very memorable day. The Band opened the afternoon event with a performance that had everyone tapping his or her toes. The members of the band entered from all corners of the auditorium. It was truly a spectacular sight to see. After the band played, several federal, state, and local officials spoke about the community of Belchertown and how much we care about our students by building them this state-of-the-art facility. This event also gave us an opportunity to thank all those involved with making this dream a reality: The Board of Selectmen – Mr. Ronald Aponte, Mrs. Linda Barron, Mr. Gerald Grasso, Mr. Michael Reardon, Mr. Steven Rose, Town Administrator - Mr. Gary Brougham, Town Clerk/Collector - Mr. William Barnett, Town Accountant - Mrs. Eleanor Green, The Belchertown High School Building Committee – Mr. Douglas Albertson, Mr. Eric Bernardin, Mr. Edward Ciosek, Mr. Patrick Daly, Mr. Daniel Fitzpatrick, Mr. Gerald Grasso, Mr. Simon James, Mr. Robert Lachance, Mrs. Elizabeth Radwilowicz, Mr. Frank Wenzel, Mr. Richard White, Mr. Robert Byard, Mr. Michael Krzystofik, The School Committee –

Mrs. Sharon Barnett, Mr. Edward Mitnick, MaryEllen O'Reilly-Bracey, Barbara Schaffer-Bacon, Richard White, Kathleen Beresky, Superintendent of Schools - Richard Pazasis, Drummey, Rosane, and Anderson, Mr. Scot Woodin, Mr. Steve Kehler, and Fontaine Brothers.

In addition to the Dedication Ceremony in October, one of our proudest moments came on September 20th when we found out that the Class of 2004 ranked first in Western Massachusetts in English on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System and fifth in Math. This was a very significant accomplishment, one in which the entire district - primary, elementary, middle, and high - can be very, very proud!

In closing, all of our students have contributed so much to the success of our first four months at 142 Springfield Road through their achievements in their academics, their talent in athletics and music, and their participation in extra-curricular activities. We are very fortunate to have such outstanding students in this community. With these wonderful students and our caring educators and support personnel, we are creating new traditions, keeping some of the old, and looking forward to many wonderful memories in this building. We are very grateful to the community for giving us this beautiful building. All of us at Belchertown High School will continue to provide a quality education for all of our students in a positive, safe, and caring environment.

PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District Committee presents this report to the citizens of the District. The Committee continued to consist of nine members - two each from Belchertown and Palmer - and one from each of the communities of Granby, Hardwick, Monson, New Braintree, and Ware. Michael O'Connor of Belchertown and Robert Dupuis of Hardwick were elected in November to replace retiring members Michael Roncolato and Harry Comerford. Incumbents Michael Cavanaugh of Palmer, Barbara Ray of Ware, and Elizabeth Desrochers of Granby were re-elected at that time. Mr. Cavanaugh will continue as Chairman, and David Droz of Palmer will serve as Vice-Chairman.

Pathfinder's School Council—consisting of three parents, two teachers, two students, a community member, and a college representative and co-chaired by Pathfinder's Assistant Superintendent—has continued to provide guidance and direction to the administration in its efforts to improve the educational experience of students attending Pathfinder.

CURRICULUM

Superintendent Gerald Paist and Assistant Superintendent David Andersen identified a number of curriculum initiatives undertaken during the year:

- In December, the New England Association of Schools & Colleges granted Pathfinder continued accreditation for an additional 10-year period. The notification was accompanied by a highly complimentary list of commendations as well as several recommendations for areas of improvement.

- Following an intensive period of investigation, Pathfinder staff and administration voted to join the nationally acclaimed *High Schools That Work* initiative. Funded by a $100,000 grant over five years, this movement is designed to raise academic and vocational standards and lead to improved performance by all Pathfinder students.

- Numerous curriculum changes and innovations will take place over the next three to five years. Additional items to be addressed through *HSTW* will be better integration of academic and vocational studies, reading across the curriculum, and a more rigorous homework policy.

- The efforts being devoted to *High Schools That Work* complement our on-going endeavor to improve our students' performance on MCAS. We continue to offer after school remedial classes in mathematics and English, Saturday classes for remediation, preparation classes for freshmen and sophomores, out-of-shop classes for remediation in small groups, as well as in-school time for practice on the state-sponsored Web site for MCAS preparation.

- The Culinary Arts Program was granted ACCESS certification by the American Culinary Federation. Pathfinder joins a select list of only 46 schools in the nation to have achieved this recognition—a credit to the instructors and students for the quality of their intensive self-study.

Municipal and community service projects continued to be important components of the Pathfinder curriculum for upper class students. A sample of such efforts during the past year include the following:

- Carpentry students constructed a garage for the Ware Parks Department and two sheds for the Palmer Parks Department.

- Machine Tech students did repair work for the New Braintree Fire Department and produced items for the Ronald McDonald House in Springfield.

- Computer Tech students designed and printed business cards and calendars for local municipal agencies.

- Health Occupations students participated in the Red Cross Blood Drive and assisted in a local disaster drill in cooperation with Wing Memorial Hospital and the Palmer Ambulance Service.

- Electrical students installed new lighting at the Monson Bellmen Museum, installed lighting for the flag and decorations in Hyrniewicz Park in Three Rivers, and did extensive electrical work for the Palmer Knights of Columbus.

- The 2002-03 House Building Project took place in Ware and involved carpentry, HVAC, and electrical students.

More than 50 students took advantage of the Cooperative Education Program, an arrangement whereby they alternate periods of paid employment and class work. Local business owners report that Pathfinder students demonstrate strong basic skills and positive work ethics, including cooperation, understanding company goals, and a willingness to learn advanced skills.

STUDENT BODY

Pathfinder's October 1st enrollment stood at 665 students, including the following numbers from member towns: Belchertown 93; Granby 43; Hardwick 22; Monson 96; New Braintree 8; Palmer 123; and Ware 107. The remaining 173 students were residents of out-of-district communities.

During this past year, the Guidance Office—which also serves as the Admissions Office—received 377 applications for admission in September. Pathfinder once again offered a wide variety of opportunities for area parents and their children to learn about and visit the school. There were two Open House Programs—one in the fall and another in the spring. The Summer Career/Sports Camp and the Afternoon Exploratory Program for 7th and 8th grade students continued to attract large numbers of enthusiastic participants.

Director of Guidance Mark Condon reported that, of the applications received for the 2002-03 school year, 301 were for the 175 available 9th grade openings. Once again, transfer opportunities into the 10th and 11th grades were limited, and there was a waiting list for space in grades 9, 10, and 11.

The Pathfinder Chapter of the National Vocational-Technical Honor Society inducted a deserving group of new and existing members in an impressive ceremony. The Chapter continued the practice of inviting Renaissance Award-winners who demonstrated potential for eventual selection into the Society as guests. The program was held in January so that senior inductees could include this recognition on college, scholarship, and work applications.

Pathfinder's selection to represent the school at the Annual Vocational Student Awards Program sponsored by the Massachusetts Vocational Association and the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators was West Brookfield resident Jeanine Coburn, a student in the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Program. Jeanine earned a 3.9 grade point average, was a member of the National Vocational Technical Honor Society for two years, participated in varsity soccer, and graduated as the valedictorian of her class. She, along with fellow student Jefrey Johnson, was named to the *Union News* Western Massachusetts All Academic Team in the fall for achieving at least a 3.7 grade point average while participating in a fall sport.

In June 2002, the graduating class of 140 students—the largest class to date at Pathfinder-- received diplomas and technical certificates at commencement exercises. Approximately 70% of the graduates were working or had plans to continue their education at the post-secondary level, while another 7% had made commitments to serve in the military. Articulation agreements with local colleges continued to have a positive effect on Pathfinder seniors, encouraging them to continue their education with advanced credit. Interest in four-year colleges also continued to be a popular option for graduates with the top two seniors (Jeanine Coburn and Christopher Foreman) taking advantage of an $8,000 renewable scholarship at the University of Massachusetts offered by the University Scholars Program. This scholarship is offered to the top two seniors at every accredited high school in the Commonwealth who achieve a minimum SAT score of 1100.

The Scholarship Committee awarded approximately $38,500 in scholarships to members of the Class of 2002. Once again, state and local organizations—as well as individuals—continued to recognize the ability and potential of Pathfinder graduates in the form of generous donations. The school committee, administration, and the graduates themselves are grateful for this support, and they are especially proud of the number of awards that have been made to honor the memory of former Pathfinder students and friends.

STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ATHLETICS

Several special presentations and community outreach programs showcased our students' talents and caring for the community:

- A blood drive was held in January during which faculty and students contributed 78 pints, resulting in a commendation from the Red Cross.
- Thirty Thanksgiving baskets were assembled and distributed to families in need through Valley Human Services of Ware.
- The Drama Club presented two plays in the spring: *Itchin' to get Hitched* and *Once Upon a Beginning*.
- In May, students attended a presentation by motivational speaker Mark Miniella. A presentation by M.A.D.D. concerning the perils of drinking and driving was given to upperclassmen.
- The senior class observed their class day with a cruise of Boston Harbor.
- The mentoring program provided a "hands-on" training program for staff and freshman students at Springfield College.

- A successful “Coats for Kids” drive was held by the Student Council.

- A Battle of the Bands and Halloween costume dance was held as a fundraiser in October.

- A “Breakfast Banquet” was held at the end of the year to honor Student Council members.

Director of Athletics Donald Irzyk reported another successful year. More than 200 students participated in the athletic programs, and freshman participation reached the highest level in the history of the school. Of particular note were the following:

- Four varsity teams qualified for Western Massachusetts Tournament play: baseball, softball, boys’ basketball, and boys’ soccer.

- The baseball team marked its 8th year as a qualifier for the tournament, the longest streak in the school’s history and one of the longest in Western Massachusetts for a technical school.

- The softball, baseball, and boys’ basketball teams also qualified for the state vocational school tournaments with the softball team losing only in the final game in a close contest.

- The softball team finished as co-champions of the Tri-county League. The golf team won the most matches in its history, and the football team—in a very close game—evened the Thanksgiving rivalry in a loss to Belchertown.

- David Rossi was named as a first team selection to the Springfield Newspapers All Western Massachusetts Team in baseball. Kevin Aldrich and Candace Taylor were selected as the outstanding male and female athletes.

SPECIAL SERVICES

During 2002, the Special Education Department continued to provide high quality services for all eligible special education students. In addition to the excellent staff already in place, the Department selected a new vocational instructor of health occupations to replace a retiree and promoted a paraprofessional to teacher status.

The Department continued to provide academic and vocational instruction to students in grades 9-12 and to students attending the Modified Vocational Instruction Program (MVIP). The Department has put into effect the necessary changes to comply with new state regulations, which align Massachusetts more closely with federal special education law.

The IEP Planner/Liaison and TEAM teacher for the MVIP Program conducted TEAM evaluations, annual reviews, and diagnostic reviews for 61 students in the MVIP Program and 147 students in grades 9-12. Twenty-one additional re-evaluations were conducted.

The Department currently includes 17 professional teachers, 7 teacher aides, and one mobility instructor for a blind student. Among the professionals are a Speech Therapist, School Psychologist, and Occupational Therapist. The Speech Therapist provided services in both small group settings and individual speech and language therapy to approximately 72 students. The School Psychologist provided individual and small group counseling to approximately 100 students on a regular or intermittent basis. She also maintained contact with area probation and mental health agencies in matters affecting Pathfinder students. The Occupational Therapist is now a full-time position, and she worked with 42 students in adaptive physical education classes, health and life skills, and in occupational therapy services.

Pathfinder provided Resource Room instruction for all major courses offered in grades 9-12. World History and American Centuries courses were aligned with the Curriculum Frameworks and MCAS tests. Resource Mathematics featured an integrated approach to algebra and geometry, and higher-grade mathematics emphasized consumer-oriented concepts, including payroll, budgeting, shopping, insurance, financing/credit, mortgages, and taxes.

Resource English included a variety of novels, short stories, and vocabulary exercises, with special emphasis placed on responding to open-ended questions. Finally, Resource Science focused on general science, biology, and environmental curricula with activities that included oral and written assignments and informative field trips.

The MVIP Program continued to operate at full capacity with 61 students. Components of the program included:

- Office Business: Students work on printing, duplicating, and collating brochures and mailings for member communities and non-profit groups.

- Building Services: Students learn care of interior surfaces and coverings, building exteriors and grounds, and the use of some hand and power tools necessary in this line of work.

- Life Skills: Developmentally delayed students learn individual self-sufficiency and job skills.

- Horticulture: Students learn maintenance of greenhouse and vegetable gardens, landscape maintenance, and floral design.

- Auto Reconditioning: Students learn the basics of cleaning and polishing cars along with professional workmanship, and they provide this service to the public.
- Food Services: Students learn the fundamentals of food preparation and service and assist in the preparation and production of the daily school lunch.

This past year, the MVIP program graduated 8 students.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Utilizing the Department of Education's Unified Request for Proposals, Pathfinder submitted and received grants for the following programs and/or purposes:

Fund Code	*Program Name*	*Allocation*
240	IDEA Special Education These funds were used to support an Alternative Drop-out Prevention Program, provided in-service training, professional development and supplies for the shop and academic classrooms.	$165,513
274	SPED Access to the Curriculum This grant provided monies for study groups to make the general curriculum more adaptable to the special education student.	$7,500
160	Enhancing Education Through Technology These funds replaced Title VI funds and are utilized for library development.	$3,321
242	SPED Electronic Portfolio This small allocation supported alternative assessment for those special education students unable to take a pencil-and-paper test.	$150.00
305	Title I This funding provided for a full-time teacher aide who assisted in the reading and writing labs. It also supported a teacher who worked with small groups of students in mathematics and language arts.	$88,026
413	State Leadership-Curriculum Development This grant represents the first of five installments to support the *High Schools That Work* program.	$20,000
400	Carl Perkins Vocational Education The grant from this federal program enabled the school to offer professional development and to purchase equipment and supplies for shops that enrolled high percentages of special populations.	$69,342
140	Teacher Quality These monies provided resources for additional teaching staff to reduce student/teacher ratios in specified areas.	$25,794
632	Academic Support Services Program This grant was used to provide a Saturday morning program for students who did not score well on their 8th grade MCAS tests.	$49,367
	Summer Youth Employment Program These funds provided paid employment and academic enhancement for in-district and out- of- school youth for 4 weeks in the summer and during the school year.	$94,584
	TOTAL	$404,593

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The school committee wishes to give recognition to the following special programs and activities, which took place during the year.

In cooperation with the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce and area school systems, Pathfinder continued to play a leadership role in the implementation of the federal School-to-Work Opportunities Act. Among the activities sponsored by this program were:

- Teacher/mentor training at business work sites
- Improvement in curriculum to better meet the needs of area businesses
- Job shadowing and internships for students in grades 11-12
- Utilization of an updated version of "Expan," a college/career search program
- Career interest and exploratory program for seventh and selected eighth grade students during the spring of 2002. (Eliminated in the fall due to budgetary concerns.)

Pathfinder conducted its Career/Sports Camp again during the summer months. A total of 215 area students between the ages of 9 and 13 attended one of four one-week sessions, each of which lasted for 5 days. Those areas offered were Automotive, Carpentry, Cosmetology, Computers, Computer-assisted drafting, Culinary Arts, Digital Movie-making, Electronics, Environmental Explorers, Floriculture Fun, and Readers' Theatre/Summer Reading Fun. Career instruction took place in the morning, followed by sporting events: volleyball, soccer, basketball, and archery. The last hour of each day was spent in the pool at Palmer High School.

One hundred forty-nine youngsters took part in Pathfinder's Afternoon Youth Program during the school year. The program operated one day each week and included seven career areas: Automotive, Carpentry, Cosmetology, Computers, Culinary Arts, Horticulture, and Electronics. The classes ran for eight weeks for two hours each day. Parent and student satisfaction with this program has been extraordinary, and it has served as an excellent introduction to the school and its environment.

Pathfinder once again received a grant from the Regional Employment Board under the Workforce Investment Act. A total of 30 in-school and 21 out-of-school youth took advantage of this program of part-time employment, including job counseling, academic support, and intensive follow-up by grant-supported staff.

One hundred thirty-eight students from 19 different area schools took advantage of the 2001 Summer School Program. Twelve academic courses, a Related Workshop, and a Shop Hour Workshop were offered. The program attempted to assist students to change or modify poor work habits and to provide them with strategies for becoming more successful in the ensuing school year.

Under the direction of Kenneth Heim, the Evening School staff offered two sessions of courses ranging from self-improvement to vocational training and computer concepts. A determined effort went into planning, advertising, and marketing, and the results for the spring were initially encouraging with an enrollment of 198 individuals in 21 courses. Enrollment declined to 114 in the fall, however, and the administration has determined that the program should be suspended until the fall of 2003. In the interim, an evaluation of the community's areas of interest and Pathfinder's ability to service their needs will be made.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Currently the staff includes 38 vocational and related teachers, 18 professionals in special education, 24 academic teachers, 2 guidance counselors, 3 positions supported by federal grants, and 10 teacher aides and 8 administrative personnel. Five teachers were new to the school in September—one each in Automotive Technology, Drafting, Health Occupations, Spanish, and Special Education. Each replaced either a retiree or an individual who resigned.

The Pathfinder community was saddened by the untimely loss of three staff members in 2002. Drafting Instructor Claude Joyal, Networking and Systems Manager Darryl Tyburski, and MVIP Aide Susan Roy passed away during the year. Each was a valuable member of the staff and will be missed. Additionally, the Committee recognized long-time Automotive Instructor Howard Wing who retired in June. Earlier in the year, a reception was held to honor Anita Krantz upon her retirement.

Superintendent Gerald L. Paist continued to serve on the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators and on the Board of Directors of the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce. He continued to serve as Chairman of the Professional and Legal Services Committee for the Mass. Association of School Superintendents. An active member of the Assn. for Career & Technical Education, he was re-elected as a Region I Director for that organization's National Council of Local Administrators.

Committee Chairman Michael Cavanaugh continued to serve as Chairman of the Vocational-Technical Division of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, and by virtue of that position serves on the Association's Board of Directors.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Following an intense round of negotiations with member communities, the School Committee adopted an essentially level-funded FY03 gross budget of $8,712,269. Of this amount, $8,160,273 was for net school spending purposes. The District expected to receive $2,264,790 in Chapter 70 funds, $367,525 in regional school transportation reimbursement, $346,794 in school building assistance, leaving a remainder of $3,848,160 to be raised through assessments to the member communities, school choice monies, and non-resident tuition income.

The final FY03 state budget produced two unanticipated results for Pathfinder: (1) a reduction in regional school transportation aid; and (2) an increase in Chapter 70 aid. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 3 of Chapter 184 of the Acts of 2002, a sufficient number of Boards of Selectmen approved Pathfinder's request to access this additional amount, thereby increasing the budget to $8,980,781.

Once again, the Committee adopted a budget in excess of the minimum contribution required from each of the member communities. These additional costs resulted primarily from the MVIP Program as well as from selected items from the District's Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, much of which had to be postponed due to fiscal concerns expressed by member towns. Despite the effects of a level-funded budget, however, the School Committee was pleased to receive the support of each of the seven member towns during their respective annual town meetings.

PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS 2001-2002

TOWN	MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION	SHARE MVIP PROGRAM	ADDITIONAL COTRIBUTION	SHARE OF CAP (1 YR)	TRANSPORTATION	CAPITAL ASSESSMENT	TOTAL
BELCHERTOWN	747131	18363	84267	10589	13794	19681	893826
GRANBY	450754	27545	40127	5042	6569	8321	538358
HARDWICK	104893	9182	16853	2118	2759	3779	139584
MONSON	512790	64272	65006	8169	10641	11997	672874
N. BRAINTREE	63169	0	8828	1109	1445	1716	76267
PALMER	613087	73454	93897	11799	15371	17462	825071
WARE	517855	82635	69018	8673	11298	12699	702179
TOTAL	3009679	275451	377996	47500	61878	75656	3848160

CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The School Committee is justly proud of the staff and students and of the contributions they have made to the economic health of our District. The committee recognizes that, in this era of accountability and high expectations, many changes need to be made. The increased emphasis on academic skills needs to be maintained without diminishing the quality of students' technical studies.

The conclusion of the 2002-year brought ominous signs that budgets for the current year and in FY04 will be significantly impacted by the state's growing fiscal crisis. Yet there appeared to be no enthusiasm to relax state mandates. The Committee therefore looks forward to next year with caution and some alarm. It is, however, committed to providing the best educational opportunities for workforce development within the District, and to that end, respectfully invites the continued support of town officials, parents, local business and industry personnel, and citizens in all of our seven communities.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael J. Cavanaugh, Chairman - Palmer
Judith C. Dudek - Belchertown
Michael O'Connor - Belchertown
Elizabeth Desrochers - Granby
Robert J. Dupuis - Hardwick
Barbara L. Beaulieu – Monson
Geraldine A. Reavey - New Braintree
David Droz - Palmer
M. Barbara Ray - Ware
Adrienne Bergeron - Student Representative
Gerald L. Paist, Superintendent-Director

SKATE PARK COMMITTEE

Community Skate Park Committee met once a month, public given written notice, throughout the year 2002. Immediately following these meetings, the "Friends of the Belchertown Community Skate Park Committee" would meet to discuss fundraising possibilities, etc. Fundraising that took place during the year held by the "Friends" included:

- Cookie Dough Sale
- Bottle Drive
- Valentine's Dance held at the Belchertown VFW

Accomplishments that took place during the year 2002:

- Working as a Committee to enforce the Rules and Regulations of the Skate Park.
- Monitoring the Skate Park during its opened hours.
- Working as a Committee to discuss the running, opening and closing of the Skate Park.
- Working as a Committee to address any violations of Skate Park rules.

Respectfully submitted,

Skate Park Committee

B-TOWN TEEN CENTER

TEEN CENTER

The Teen Center is in its fourth year of operation and its success continues. This success not only comes from the support of the administration but from the community and it's many volunteers.

With the assistance of the Friends of the Teen Center we held our second annual senior class picnic, our fourth incredibly successful all night alternative after prom party, a free spaghetti supper to the Senior Citizens of Belchertown, a successful forth annual holiday bazaar, field trips, a holiday dinner, a violence prevention workshop, Friday's at the beach, post game pizza parties, the Pioneer Valley Clothesline project, and our two annual craft fairs on the common. After school art and crafts, scrap booking classes, and creative writing were held weekly, at a nominal fee to our teens. The Safe Sitter course was also offered several times to our budding babysitters.

Overall, the Teen Center focuses on providing enriching activities to teens that might otherwise not have an opportunity to express themselves creatively and to learn constructive problem solving and social skills within a positive growth-oriented environment. Teen residents from seventh to twelfth grade visit the center each week to work on school and center projects, learn the game of pool, foosball, or ping-pong, and more importantly learn the necessary social and personal skills that will give them a firm advantage throughout their lives. We look forward to next year and our new adventures and challenges.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Shea-Bressette
Teen Center Coordinator

BELCHERTOWN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This year has been a somewhat quiet year for the Belchertown Telecommunications Advisory Committee. The Committee membership remained the same as last year with members Kim Kearney as vice chairman and secretary, Andy Katafiasz, Art Dunbar, Dan Fitzpatrick and myself as chairman (Frank Lomanno).

Charter Communications continued to increase subscribership to its Internet and digital services. The pricing structure has changed with the additional services and channels. Charter has created different Pipeline (Internet access) rates base on specific levels of service. Basically, the service levels are different Internet speeds up to 1.5 Mbps and accordingly cost more with increasing access speed. New channels were added during the year including Hallmark, Oxygen and TechTV. Charter also introduced Robert J. Spain Jr., the company's Regional Manager of Government Relations. In addition, the company moved its customer service representatives from Front Street in Chicopee to the company's headquarters in Worcester. The Chicopee office will still serve as a payment center, and cable technicians will continue to work out of the this location.

The Belchertown Telecommunications Advisory Committee met to discuss the proposal put forth by Charter Communication. The terms of this proposal, as presented by Dan Fitzpatrick, is an exchange of some $12,000 worth of equipment for contract re-negotiation. Specifically, the School Department and Channel 5 are asking for a donation of the equipment and maintenance service from Charter, which includes four modulators and four auxiliary switches. Charter will agree to this request if we amend their contract by authorizing the closing of their Belchertown office. After discussing this offer, the committee recommended accepting this proposal with the following two provisions; ample written notification be made to Charter subscribers about closing the Belchertown office and an alternative place be made available in Belchertown for subscribers to pay cable bills. A letter to the Selectmen was sent stating our acceptance.

Complaints to this committee pertain to hookups, service calls and the addition of the Internet service. Other comments were rate increases due to additional programs brought into the channel line-up. Again we need to remind subscribers that neither this committee nor the Town of Belchertown has any authority in terms of channel selection or payment rates. The cable rates are regulated by the State, and channel selection is based on FCC regulations and well as the popularity of any particular program channel.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank D. Lomanno, Chairman
Art Dunbar
Dan Fitzpatrick
Jim Kearney
Andy Katafiasz

VETERANS' GRAVES

Work will continue this spring on re-identifying all Veterans' grave markers at Mt. Hope Cemetery. When completed, all eight Belchertown cemetery veterans' markers will be computerized. All markers were flagged in 2002 with the continued assistance of Belchertown Post 239 of the American Legion. We would like to extend a special thanks to their personnel for all their efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Viglione, Veterans' Graves Officer
Kathleen Wood, Assistant Veterans' Graves Officer

VETERANS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The year 2002 brought an increased need in services for the Veterans and/or their dependents residing in Belchertown. The population of our town increased approximately 23% to about 13,000 residents. This growth led to an increase in just over 1,000 listed Veterans in our town.

At this time, we anticipate an increase in our duties and obligations in order to serve these Veterans. In order to address these needs, we are planning on increasing our hours of operation and also focusing on the probability of upgrading the part-time Agent's position to a full-time Director of Veterans' Services. (Mandated by 108CMR 12.07 Requirements of Chapter 471, St. Acts of 1972.)

We would like to extend our thanks to all of the service agencies that have assisted our office in order to better serve the Veterans and their dependents of Belchertown.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Messier
Veterans Agent

WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The Committee members reorganized and appointed Edward Knight as Chairman. Other members include: Leo Beauchemin, Francis Dudek, F. Thomas Keefe, Peter Thorpe as Treasurer, and Susan Gay, as an Associate Member and Secretary.

They met to discuss ways to raise money to repair the Union Soldier Monument. The Soldier has stood for 118 years, but there has been structural failure of the inner support, resulting in this monument leaning 2 degrees to the North and 3 degrees to the West.

The estimate to correct the monument from leaning is $30,700. A grant was pursued, but could not be applied to the fiscal year cycle. It will be brought up again in June and may be applied for in October or November of 2003.

The Committee posts meetings and the public is invited. The meetings are held at the Fire Department, usually on a Thursday evening.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the War Memorial Committee:
Susan Gay, Associate Member and Secretary

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board of Appeals received 23 applications for the year 2002. Out of the 23 applications received, there were eight variances granted, eleven special permits granted, one variance denied and one change to a comprehensive permit granted. Two of the applications received in 2002 were carried over into 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Loftus Mas, Chairman
Rich Barry
Ray Goff

Associate Members:
Kevin LaCroix
Greg Galanek
Patricia LaFore

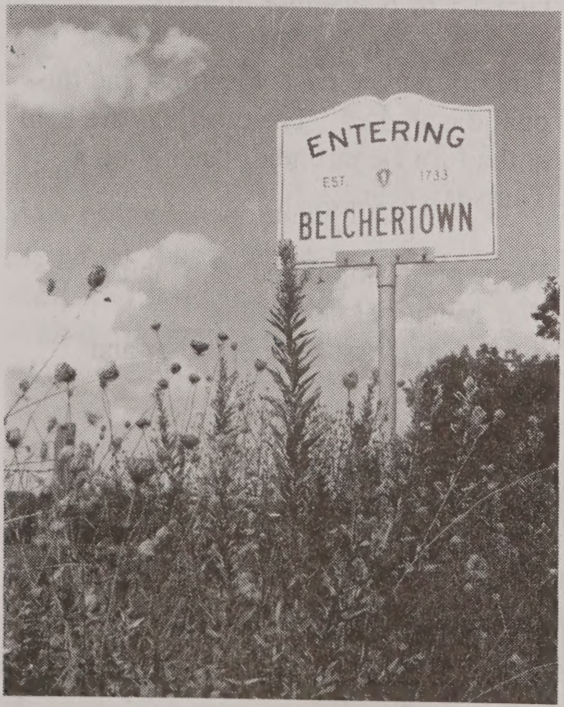


Photo courtesy of Jane Cruttchfield

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN TELEPHONE NUMBERS

TO REPORT AN EMERGENCY	**911**
Assessors, Board of	323-0413
Civil Defense	323-0408
Clapp Memorial Library	323-0417
Conservation Commission	323-0405
Dog Officer	323-6880
Fire Station – business	323-7571
Health, Board of	323-0406
Housing Authority	323-4064
Inspection Services	323-0402
Pathfinder Regional School	283-9701
Planning Board	323-0407
Police Department – business	323-6685
Public Works, Department of	323-0415
Recreation Department	323-0419
School Department	323-0423
• Berkshire School	323-0444
• Chestnut Hill	323-0437
• Cold Spring	323-0428
• High School	323-9419
• Jabish Brook	N/A
• Swift River	323-0483
• Tadgell School	323-0483
Selectmen, Board of	323-0403
Senior Center	323-0420
Sewer Department	323-0449
Tobacco Control	323-0498
Town Accountant	323-0410
Town Administrator	323-0403
Town Clerk	323-0281
Treasurer-Collector	323-0400
Transfer Station	323-0416
Veterans' Services	323-0409
Water District	323-6987

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
MASSACHUSETTS

Action taken at the Special Town Meeting held January 28, 2002 at Chestnut Hill Community School Auditorium FY02

Moderator – Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:34 PM
Registered voters present – 105 (Quorum required – 75)
The Clerk read the Return of the Warrant.

Article 1 Voted in accordance with the provision of MGL, c.44, § 53 E ½, to authorize the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of operating the Teen Center, which fund shall be credited with receipts from program fees, said funds to be expended under the authority and direction of the Recreation Committee, such expenditure not to exceed $5,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 2 Voted in accordance with the provisions of MGL, c.44, § 53 E ½, to authorize the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of witnessing and documenting percolation tests, which fund shall be credited with receipts from such tests, said funds to be expended under the authority and direction of the Board of Health, such expenditure not to exceed $15,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 3 Voted to appropriate from available funds in the treasury a sum of $150,242.54 for Contract #235023 Chapter 235 of the Chapter 90 Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 4 Voted to amend Dog Control By-Law, as previously amended, by increasing the daily care and impoundment fees as follows:

➢ Daily care:	$5.00
➢ Impoundment First offense:	$20.00

- Impoundment Second offense: $35.00
- Impoundment Third and Subsequent Offense(s): $50.00

(Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 5 Voted to amend the vote taken under Article 16 of the May 14, 2001 Special Town Meeting, the acquisition of the Reed Property, by inserting the following language after the word **domain** in the first line of the vote:

- "a fee simple interest, subject to a perpetual conservation restriction held by the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission and to accept donations toward this purchase"

(Voted – Unanimous Yes – 2/3 Required)

Article 6 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $12,235.00 to refurbish three voting machines and to purchase one new voting machine to be used in the newly added voting precinct. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 7 Voted to appropriate sums of money from the Computer Department Salary Account the sum of $2500.00 and from the Computer Department Wage Account the sum of $2000.00, for a total of $4500.00 to the Computer Department Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 8 Voted to transfer the care, custody and control of the land owned by the Town, described in a deed recorded with the Hampshire Registry of Deeds at Book 74 and Page 53, and shown on a plan entitled *Patrick D. II and Laurie A. Kamins*, prepared by Richard A. Lewis, PLS, dated August 24, 2001, to the Board of Selectmen to convey said land of Chadbourne Street Extension to Patrick D. Kamins II and Laurie A. Kamins (*Kamins*) and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey said land to Kamins, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be appropriate.

(Voted – Unanimous Yes – 2/3 Required)

Article 9 Voted to rescind the authorization to borrow $24,640.00 for the purchase of the Topping Farm property. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted –Unanimous Yes)

Article 10 Voted to appropriate from the Sewer Evaluation #870 Account the sum of $432.75, from the Sewer construction #491 Account the sum of $1000.34 from the Sewer Design #870 Account the sum of $887.65, and from the free cash in the treasury the sum of $5,838.13, for a total appropriation of $8158.87 to the Sewer Constrcution Account #870 Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 11 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $3659.00 to match a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant received by the Fire Department. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 12 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury sum of $52,325.00 to the Maturing Debt and the sum of $12,080.00 to the Interest Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 13 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $6,650.00 to the following Accounts:

- $1,500.00 to the Town Administrator Wage Account
- $150.00 to the Planning Board Wage Account
- $5,000 to the Clapp Memorial Library Wage Account and
- $900.00 from the Police Department Wage Account to the Police Department Salary Account and
- $600.00 from the Treasurer/Collector Wage Account to the Treasurer/Collector Salary Account and
- $500.00 from the Treasurer/Collector Wage Account to the Town Clerk Wage Account.

(Endorsed By Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 14 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $10,000.00 to the Meadow Building Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 15 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury sums of $68,000.00 to the Ambulance Department Wage Account and the Ambulance Department Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

- $55,000.00 to Ambulance Department Wage Account, and
- $13,000.00 to Ambulance Department Expense Account.

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 16 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $7,200.00 to purchase the Fixed Assets Accounting Module. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 17 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $14,000.00 to complete the refurbishment of the 1974 Maxim Fire Truck. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 18 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $2,600.00 to erect a fence with privacy panels at the Swift River Elementary School and Housing Authority property driveway. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-1-1)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 19 Voted to accept the following named way within the Town of Belchertown:

Plaza Avenue as shown on an *As Built* plan entitled *Plaza Ridge* and provided by Anderson Associates, dated January 23, 1996 and recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Northampton, Book 179, Page 241, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire any necessary easements in connection therewith.

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 20 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $319,000.00 from Medicaid reimbursement to the School Department #9000 Account for special education costs related to the FY02 Belchertown School District Budget. (Endorsed by Finance 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 21 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $52,443.00 to the School Department #9000 Account for special education costs related to the FY02 Belchertown School District Budget. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 22 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $300,000.00 to the Stabilization Fund. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 23 Voted to amend the Personnel By-Law, as previously amended, as described in Article 23 of this Special Town Meeting Warrant.

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Article 24 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $2500.00 to the Police Off Duty Work Detail Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Voted – Unanimous Yes)

Meeting dissolved at 8:18 PM

Attest:
William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

Action taken at the Special Town Meeting held May 13, 2002 at Belchertown High School Gymnasium
FY02

Moderator – Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:12 PM
Registered voters present – 667 (Quorum required – 75)
The Clerk read the Return of the Warrant.

Article 1 Voted to appropriate from the Injured on Duty Account the sum of $9,000.00 and appropriate from the Unemployment Insurance Account the sum of $4,500.00 for a total appropriation of $13,500.00 to the Senior Center Building Account; appropriate from the Snow and Ice Control Account the sum of $2,200.00 and appropriate from the Unemployment Insurance Account the sum of $300.00 for a total appropriation of $2,500.00 to the EMS Building Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 2 Voted to appropriate from the Health Insurance-Town Share Account the sum of $20,000.00 for the replacement of the roof at the Day School Building. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 3 Voted to take no action to appropriate from available funds in the treasury a sum of money to the School Department's #9000 Account for FY02 Special Education costs.
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Meeting Dissolved 7:17 PM

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN

Action taken at the Annual Town Meeting held May 13, 2002 at Belchertown High School Gymnasium
FY03

Moderator – Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:45 PM
Registered voters present – 667 (Quorum required – 75)
The Clerk read the return of the Warrant.
Katie Woods led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, and National Anthem was sung by Shirley Warren.
Selectman Rose presented the Volunteer of the Year Award to Jeannette and David Crowther.
Selectman Aponte presented the Employee of the Year Award to Lisa Banner.
Selectman Barron presented a Special Award to Mary Pratt
Selectman Reardon presented the Citizen of the Year Award to Francis Budzinski.

Article 1 Voted to nominate Linda E. Barron and Suzanne M. Bay as Almoners of the Whiting Street and Mrs. Susan M.D. Bridgman funds, each for one year; and Ann Austin Pratt as Trustee of the Calvin Bridgman Fund for three years.
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 2 Voted to accept the reports of the officers of the Town, including an oral report given by the Quabbin Health District Task Force Committee, with the exception of the Finance Committee.
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 3 Voted to authorize the Assessors and the Board of Health members to appoint themselves to work in their various departments for the ensuing fiscal year, at hourly rates not exceeding the following:

➢ Assessors	$9.29
➢ Board of Health Members	$6.36

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 4 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Improvement Program for use on approved town ways.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 5 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for Massachusetts Small Cities Program or other Federal or State monies and to expend any monies received as set forth in the application following a public hearing.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 6 Voted in accordance with the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of a Senior Center Transportation Program, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the Transportation Program and shall be under the control of the Director of the Senior Center; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 7 Voted in accordance with the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of Council on Aging Programs, which fund shall be credited with receipts from these programs and shall be under the control of the Council on Aging; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 8 Voted in accordance with the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of firefighters' protective clothing and equipment purchase and maintenance, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the open air burning permit fees, and shall be under the control of the Fire Chief; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 9 Voted in accordance with the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of providing a concession at the Town Beach, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the Town Beach Concession, and shall be under the control of the Recreation Director; such expenditures not to exceed $5,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 10 Voted in accordance with the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of operating the Teen Center, which fund shall be credited with receipts from program fees, and shall be under the control of the Recreation Director; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 11 Voted in accordance with the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, authorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of pool programs, which fund shall be credited with receipts from such programs, and shall be under the control of the Recreation Director; such expenditures not to exceed $75,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 12 Voted in accordance with the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of witnessing and documenting percolation tests, which fund shall be credited with receipts from such tests, and shall be under the control of the Board of Health; such expenditures not to exceed $15,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 13 Voted in accordance with the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, authorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of transportation of pupils in grades 7 through 12 for school attendance, which fund shall be credited with receipts from said transportation, and shall be under the control of the School Committee; such expenditures not to exceed $150,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Majority Yes)

Article 14 Voted in accordance with the provisions of MGL, Chapter 71, Section 71E, for the purpose of establishing a revolving fund for receiving and expending receipts for the use of school property in connection with the conduct of adult education and continuing education programs; such expenditures will be used by the School Committee to offset the costs associated with operating school property during non-school time. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 15 Voted to amend the Town By-Laws, as previously amended, by amending Chapter 72-2, Posting of Warrants, as follows:

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Chapter 72-2, Posting of Warrants
Notice of every town meeting shall be given by posting an attested copy of the warrant calling the same on the official bulletin board in Lawrence Memorial Hall and in at least 6 other places in town, which shall include bulletin boards located at the *Old Town Hall on Park Street*; at the intersection of Gulf Road and Amherst Road; at the intersection of Metacomet Street and Bay Road; at the intersection of Rockimmon Street and Turkey Hill Road; at the intersection of South Street and South Liberty Street; and at the intersection of Depot Street and Keyes Street, not less than seven (7) days before the day appointed for an annual town meeting, or not less than fourteen (14) days before the day appointed for a special town meeting, and the return of the officer, stating the manner of notice, shall be endorsed on the warrant.

Article 16 Voted to appoint Gary Racicot to work part-time in the position of Inspector of Animals.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 17 Voted to amend the Motion of Article 17 of the May 8, 2000 Annual Town Meeting as follows:

"I move the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept gifts of land **and** easements on behalf of the Town without a Town Meeting vote provided no **appropriation** of funds is necessary for the acquisition, and further authorize to grant nonexclusive easements which the Board of Assessors has determined to have a fair market value of less than $25,000 or which are less than 10,000 square feet in size without a Town Meeting vote."

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 18 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, by gift or by eminent domain, and upon such terms and conditions as said Board of Selectmen shall determine appropriate, a property situated on the corner of Bay Road and Warren Wright Road, Belchertown, as described in Article 18 of this Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

(2/3 Vote Required – Passed by 2/3 Voice Vote Yes)

Article 19 Voted to transfer the care, custody, management and control of the land owned by the Town, as described in Article 19 of this Annual Town Meeting Warrant, from the Inhabitants of Belchertown to the Board of Selectmen for the purposes of conveyance and to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen may determine, to sell said parcel to the Mill Valley Corp. in exchange for the conveyance by Mill Valley Corp. of land of Mill Valley Corp., as further described in Article 19 of this Annual Town Meeting Warrant (hereinafter referred to as the 'Mill Valley Corp. Parcels'), to the Town of Belchertown and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift or otherwise, and to accept the deed or deeds of a fee simple interest or less in said Mill Valley Corp Parcels for general municipal purposes.

(2/3 Vote Required – Passed by 2/3 Voice Vote Yes)

Article 20 Voted in accordance with the MGL, Chapter 143, Section 3Y, allowing the appointment of Inspector of Buildings, Building Commissioner or Local Inspector so employed by the Town to be appointed for a minimum term of three years.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 21 Voted to amend the Belchertown Zoning By-Law, as previously amended, as follows: (Public Hearing 4/23/02. After Hearing endorsed by Planning Board 5-0)

(2/3 Vote Required – Passed by 2/3 Voice Vote Yes)

Relative to Site Plan Approval, **Delete** in its entirely the existing subsection 145- 27D(3)(a) Period of Review and **Replace** with the following language:

All applications for site plan approval shall be reviewed and acted upon by the Planning Board. For site plan approval applications that coincide with a special permit, the schedule and procedural requirements of the special permit shall apply. A separate public hearing for a simultaneous site plan approval application is not required. For site plan applications that do not require a special permit, the Planning Board shall, within 35 days of the application filing date, take final action in accordance with Subsection G or make a determination pursuant to Subsection D(3)(b) that a public hearing is necessary. If a public hearing is determined to be necessary, the schedule and requirements of a special permit shall apply.

Article 22 Voted to amend the Belchertown Zoning By-Law, Section 145-11, Schedule of Use regulations as follows: (Public Hearing 4/23/02. After Hearing endorsed by Planning Board 5-0)

(2/3 Vote Required – Passed by 2/3 Voice Vote Yes)

8. Commercial outdoor recreation and motorized recreation including, but not limited to: ski grounds, golf course, driving range, motocross course, *snowmobile course, go-kart track, race track, and other outdoor entertainment requiring outdoor areas and parking,*

Zone District	**VR**	**AG-B**	**LR**	**MDR**	**AG-A**	**B-2**	**B-1**	**I**	**MHP**	**LI**
	N	N	N	N	SP/Z	SP/Z	N	N	N	SP/Z

9. Outdoor sales area with stalls, booths, and parking; such as flea market and antique fair,

Zone District	**VR**	**AG-B**	**LR**	**MDR**	**AG-A**	**B-2**	**B-1**	**I**	**MHP**	**LI**
	N	N	N	N	SP/Z	SP/Z	N	N	N	SP/Z

11. Removing and processing gravel, and other extractive operations,

Zone District	**VR**	**AG-B**	**LR**	**MDR**	**AG-A**	**B-2**	**B-1**	**I**	**MHP**	**LI**
	SP/P	SP/P	SP/P	SP/P	SP/P	SP/P	SP/P	SP/P	SP/P	SP/P

- Changing lines 26, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, and 41, under "Business Uses" to read as follows:

26. Truck stops,

Zone District	**VR**	**AG-B**	**LR**	**MDR**	**AG-A**	**B-2**	**B-1**	**I**	**MHP**	**LI**
	N	N	N	N	N	SP/Z	N	SP/Z	N	SP/Z

34. Performing arts center, including cinema, auditorium, and theatre;

Zone District	**VR**	**AG-B**	**LR**	**MDR**	**AG-A**	**B-2**	**B-1**	**I**	**MHP**	**LI**
	N	N	N	N	N	PA	SP/P PA	N	N	PA

35. Indoor sport and athletic facilities with less than 5,000 sq. ft.;

Zone District	**VR**	**AG-B**	**LR**	**MDR**	**AG-A**	**B-2**	**B-1**	**I**	**MHP**	**LI**
	N	N	N	N	N	Y	PA	N	N	PA

36. Indoor sport and athletic facilities 5,000 sq. ft and over;

Zone District	**VR**	**AG-B**	**LR**	**MDR**	**AG-A**	**B-2**	**B-1**	**I**	**MHP**	**LI**
	N	N	N	N	N	PA	SP/P PA	N	N	PA

38. Commercial parking areas and garages;

Zone District	**VR**	**AG-B**	**LR**	**MDR**	**AG-A**	**B-2**	**B-1**	**I**	**MHP**	**LI**
	N	N	N	N	N	PA	PA	N	N	PA

39. Meeting halls, places of assembly, club conducted for profit;

Zone District	**VR**	**AG-B**	**LR**	**MDR**	**AG-A**	**B-2**	**B-1**	**I**	**MHP**	**LI**
	N	N	N	N	SP/Z	PA	PA	N	N	PA

41. Store for retail sale and distribution of lumber and building materials wherein the merchandise is stored in the open, provided that all merchandise *is screened from ground level view from any abutting residential (use) property,*

Zone District	VR	AG-B	LR	MDR	AG-A	B-2	B-1	I	MHP	LI
	N	N	N	N	SP/Z	Y	SP/P PA	N	N	PA

Article 23 Voted to amend the Belchertown Zoning By-Law, as previously amended, accepting the following changes to Earth Removal, Section 145-29. (Public Hearing 4/23/02. After Hearing endorsed by Planning Board 5-0)
(Vote – Passed by 2/3 Voice Vote Yes)

- Changing Subsection 145-29A as follows:

A. General. The removal from the premises and processing of soil, loam, sand, gravel, clay, sod, quarried stone, or other mineral deposits is allowed in the Town of Belchertown in those districts as stated in Article III of this chapter upon the obtainment of a special permit for earth removal from the Planning Board. Operation hours shall be between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on weekdays. Operation is not permitted on weekends and holidays. There shall be no exception beyond these hours. However, the Planning Board may further limit hours of operation if, after weighing factors, including traffic flow and safety, it determines the public good will be served. Trucks may enter and leave the premises only within such hours. All loaded vehicles shall be covered to prevent dust and contents from spilling and blowing from the load. The operator shall be responsible for cleaning spillage on public ways. [Amended 5-10-1999 ATM by Art. 18]

- Changing Subsection 145-29B as follows:

B. Exception. Notwithstanding the provisions thereof, no special permit shall be required for:

(1) Building permit. Removal by building permit when such removal is at the site of, incidental to, and in connection with the excavation and grading necessary for constructing a principal or accessory use permitted by this chapter, provided that the quantity of materials removed does not exceed that actually displaced by the portion of the principal or accessory use below finished grade or 500 cubic yards. Any site work involving the removal of more than 500 cubic yards requires a special permit.

(2) Transfer of materials. Removal of earth products within the limits of a lot or contiguous lots in the same ownership, provided that no such moving shall take place across or within a street and the amount to be moved does not exceed 500 cubic yards.

(3) Cemetery. Removal of earth products as part of normal cemetery operations.

(4) Subdivision. Removal of earth products in relation to the construction of an approved subdivision road under the Subdivision Control Law where such removal is in compliance with all requirements and conditions of an approved subdivision plan and is necessary to construct the same. The volume of earth to be removed will be shown on the definitive subdivision plan. Any amount to be removed beyond that necessary to construct the improvements according to the endorsed definitive plan requires a special permit. The volume of earth to be removed from individual building lots within the subdivision is governed by §145-29B(1), and such volume shall be demonstrated to the Building Inspector prior to a certificate of occupancy.

- Changing the first sentence of Subsection 145-29D as follows:

Any person who desires to remove or process earth products subject to the provisions of this section shall submit a written application for a special permit to the Planning Board.

- Changing the first sentence of Subsection 145-29F(1) as follows:

In granting a special permit under this chapter, the Planning Board shall impose reasonable conditions to protect the neighborhood and the town.

- Changing the first sentence of Subsection 145-29F(2)(c) as follows:

Excavation for removal of earth, sand, gravel, and other soils shall not extend closer than six feet above the annual high groundwater table.

- Changing Subsection 145-29F(3) as follows:

The active operation area shall not exceed a total of three acres at any one time for excavation, nor six acres at any one time for excavation and processing. Natural vegetation shall be left and maintained on undisturbed land for screening and noise-reduction.

- Changing Subsection 145-29F(6) as follows:

Operation hours shall be between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on weekdays. No weekend or holiday hours are permitted. However, the Planning Board may further limit hours of operation if, after weighing factors, including traffic flow and safety, it determines the public good will be served. Trucks may enter and leave the premises only within such hours. All loaded vehicles shall be covered to prevent dust and contents from spilling and blowing from the load.

- Changing Subsection 145-29F(7) as follows:

A permit issued hereunder is not transferable and no work under such permit shall be performed except by the holder of the permit.

- Changing Subsection 145-29F(9)(a) as follows:

Restoration shall be carried on simultaneously with excavation so that, for excavation only, when any three-acre operation area has been excavated, at least two of those acres must be restored before work commences on the next two contiguous acres; and for excavation with processing, when any six operation acres have been excavated at least five of those acres must be restored before work commences on the next five contiguous acres. Final restoration work shall be completed at least 90 days prior to the expiration of the performance guaranty.

- Changing Subsection 145-29F(9)(c) as follows:

No slope shall be steeper than a grade of four feet of horizontal distance to one foot of vertical distance (4:1). The Planning Board may modify the required slope where the stability of material, or ledge rock, makes steeper slopes practical.

Motion made to change order of Warrant Articles to address Article 29 next.
(Vote – Majority Voice Vote Yes)

icle 29 Voted to fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided for by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended; to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds in the treasury for departmental and incidental expenses of the Town for the ensuing fiscal year; and that the various major categories of the budget as contained in the Finance Committee's report be considered separately and acted upon; and further that these sums of money granted and appropriated for the several specific purposes therein designated, be expended only for those purposes as specifically designated and under the direction of the respective officers, boards and committees of the Town. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)
(Vote – Majority Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,224,822.00 and appropriate from the Wetlands Hearing Fees Account the sum of $3,500.00 to the Conservation Commission Salary Account, for a total appropriation of $1,228,322.00 for General Government, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,968,761.00 for Public Safety, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $16,903,676.00 and appropriate the sum of $200,000.00 from the Stabilization Fund for a total appropriation of $17,103,676.00 for the Town School Department with each item and amount recommended as shown in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(2/3 Vote Required – Passed by 2/3 Voice Vote Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $893,826.00 for the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $797,433.00 for the DPW-Highways, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to appropriate from Landfill receipts the sum of $83,904.00 and appropriate from Landfill Enterprise free cash in the treasury the sum of $128,821.00 for a total appropriation of $212,725.00 to the Landfill Enterprise Fund, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $415,393.00, appropriate from Sewer Enterprise free cash in the treasury the sum of $134,294.00 and appropriate from Sewer receipts the sum of $517,096.00 for a total appropriation of $1,066,783.00 to the Sewer Enterprise Fund, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Majority Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $380,897.00 and appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $19,125.00 for a total appropriation of $400,022.00 to the Human Services departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $512,690.00 for Culture and Recreation departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $452,267.00 for DPW Buildings and Grounds departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,535,252.00 for Pensions and Insurance Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $50,148.00 to the Unclassified Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $4,250,754.00 and appropriate from the High School Construction Interest Account the sum of $394,543.00 for a total appropriation of $4,645,297.00 to the Interest and Debt Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $56,372.00 for Hampshire Council of Governments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Motion made to change order of Warrant Articles to address Article 25 next.

(Vote – Majority Voice Vote Yes)

Article 25 Voted **not** to amend the Belchertown Zoning By-Law, as previously amended, By adopting a new Development Rate Limitation Provision. See Article 25 of this Annual Town Meeting Warrant for complete text. (Public Hearing 4/23/02. After Hearing endorsed by Planning Board 5-0 Yes)

(2/3 Vote Required – **FAILED**, Handcount Yes 172, No 236)

Article 24 Voted **not** to amend the Belchertown Zoning By-Law, as previously amended, concerning Common Drive Development, Article I, Section 145-2, Definitions, and to Article X, Section 145-42 through 145-50. See Article 24 of this Annual Town Meeting Warrant for complete text. (Public Hearing 4/23/02. After Hearing endorsed by Planning Board 5-0)

(2/3 Vote Required - **FAILED** - Hand count Yes-84, No-49)

Article 26 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $100.00 to by the Assessors for legal counsel in resolving court tax cases. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 27 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $30,000.00 to the Reserve Fund for use by the Finance Committee. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 28 Voted to appropriate from the Sale of Cemetery Lots Account the sum of $5,400.00 to the Cemetery Lot Development Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 30 I move the Town amend the Personnel By-Law, as previously amended, as follows:

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Under Section 8 Classification and Compensation:

➢ **Remove** Paragraph D in its entirety and **Replace** with the following language:

Newly hired full-time and regular part-time employees shall be considered probationary employees during their first six (6) months of continuous employment. A full-time or regular part-time employee retained beyond the probationary period shall be considered a permanent full-time or regular part-time employee. A full-time or regular part-time employee separated during the probationary period may be terminated without cause and without notice and shall not have recourse to the grievance procedure. The Town may extend the probationary period in its sole discretion provided that it shall notify the full-time or regular part-time employee of the reason for the extension of the probationary period and that said extension shall not be for an indefinite period. For the purposes of this paragraph, a regular part-time employee shall be an employee that is regularly scheduled to work twenty (20) or more hours per week.

Part-time employees that are regularly scheduled to work less than twenty (20) hours per week, temporary, casual and seasonal employees are not subject to the probationary period, may be terminated without cause and without notice at any time and shall not have recourse to the grievance procedure, if terminated.

Under Appendix A: Town Classification-Compensation Plan:

➤ **Remove** 1) Management/Professional in its entirety and **Replace** with the following:

1) MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATIVE OR PROFESSIONAL EXEMPT

• Director of Public Works	$53,045 - $63,654
• Fire Chief	$53,045 - $63,654
• Director of Computing	$50,470 - $63,654
• Library Director	$47,741 - $58,350
• Town Planner	$47,741 - $58,350
• Police Lieutenant	$47,023 - $58,777
• Conservation Administrator	$42,436 - $53,045
• Town Treasurer-Collector	$42,436 - $53,045
• Building Inspector	$42,436 - $53,045
• Director of Assessments	$42,436 - $53,045
• Senior Center Director	$37,132 - $47,741
• Recreation Director	$37,132 - $47,741

➤ **Add** the following positions(s) to 2) CLASSIFIED NON-EXEMPT EMPLOYEES:

- Teen Center Assistant – Grade 1
- EMT Basic – Grade 5
- EMT Intermediate – Grade 6
- Chief Fire Inspector – Grade 9

➤ **Remove** the following positions(s) from 2) CLASSIFIED NON-EXEMPT EMPLOYEES:

- Highway Division Laborer
- Maintenance Laborer
- Transfer Station Laborer
- WWTP Laborer
- Heavy Equipment Operator I
- Maintenance Worker
- Heavy Equipment Operator II
- Highway Division Mechanic/Truck Driver
- WWTP Operator I

➢ **Change** the following position's salary in 3) PART-TIME EMPLOYEES, ANNUAL SALARY:

- Veterans' Agent's annual salary **from** $5,200 **to** $8,652

➢ **Add** the following position to 4) PART-TIME EMPLOYEES, HOURLY SCHEDULE:

- Call EMT: $12.23 - $17.39/hour

Under APPENDIX B: WEEKLY SALARY SCHEDULE FOR CLASSFIED EMPLOYEES:

➢ **Remove** compensation chart and **Replace** with the following chart:

Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
1	$7.65	$7.96	$8.27	$8.60	$8.95	$9.31	$9.68	$10.06	$10.48	$10.89
2	$9.18	$9.55	$9.93	$10.32	$10.73	$11.18	$11.62	$12.07	$12.58	$13.07
3	$10.10	$10.51	$10.92	$11.35	$11.50	$12.29	$12.77	$13.29	$13.82	$14.37
4	$11.09	$11.56	$12.01	$12.48	$13.00	$13.51	$14.06	$14.62	$15.20	$15.81
5	$12.23	$12.71	$13.20	$13.75	$14.29	$14.86	$15.46	$16.07	$16.72	$17.39
6	$13.44	$13.98	$14.53	$15.11	$15.72	$16.35	$17.01	$17.69	$18.39	$19.13
7	$14.79	$15.37	$15.99	$16.63	$17.29	$17.98	$18.70	$19.45	$20.23	$21.03
8	$15.52	$16.14	$16.78	$17.46	$18.16	$18.88	$19.64	$20.42	$21.24	$22.09
9	$16.29	$16.95	$17.62	$18.33	$19.07	$19.83	$20.62	$21.45	$22.30	$23.21
10	$17.11	$17.80	$18.51	$19.25	$20.02	$20.82	$21.65	$22.53	$23.41	$24.36

Article 31 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $22,000.00 to the Workers' Compensation Trust Fund. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to dissolve this meeting at 11:20 PM.
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF APPROPRIATIONS
TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD MAY 13, 2002
FY2003

ARTICLE #	BUDGET OR DEPT	TOTAL APPROPRIATON	FROM TAX LEVY	FROM STABILIZ FUND	FROM OTHER AVAIL FUNDS	FROM BORROWING	FROM FREE CASH
1-25	NONE	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Assessors-Legal Counsel-resolving court tax cases	**100.00**					100.00
27	Reserve Fund for Finance Committee use	**30,000.00**					30,000.00
28	From Sale of Cemetery Lots Acct to Cemetery Lot Development Acct.	**5,400.00**			**5,400.00** (Sale of Cemetery Lots Acct.)		
29	**Itemized Budget**						
	General Government (Total)	**1,228,322.00**					
	1. Moderator, Salary		25.00				
	Expenses		0.00				
	2. Bd. of Selectmen, Salary		12,600.00				
	Wages		1,000.00				
	Expenses		7316.00				
	3. Town Administrator, Salary		71,132.00				
	Wages		74,250.00				
	Expenses		5,990.00				
	4. Town Accountant, Salary		55,384.00				
	Wages		70,250.00				
	Expenses		20,450.00				
	5. Town Clerk, Salary		17,004.00				
	Wages		47,852.00				
	Expenses		9,082.00				
	6. Treasurer/Tax Collector, Salary		44,115.00				
	Wages		129,650.00				
	Expenses		26,997.00				
	7. M.I.S.,Dept., Salary		52,304.00				
	Wages		45,012.00				
	Expenses		62,523.00				
	8. Bd. of Assessors						
	Assessors (elected)		3,200.00				
	Assessors, Salary		44,937.00				
	Wages		149,200.00				
	Expenses		28,900.00				
	Field Review Update		0.00				
	9. Law Account		81,300.00				
	10. Finance Committee, Wages		0.00				
	Expenses		527.00				
	11. Election and Registration, Salary		400.00				
	Wages		13,900.00				
	Expenses		7,425.00				

ARTICLE #	BUDGET OR DEPT	TOTAL APPROPRIATON	FROM TAX LEVY	FROM STABILIZ FUND	FROM OTHER AVAIL FUNDS	FROM BORROWING	FROM FREE CASH
29 (cont'd)	12. Planning Board, Salary		49,497.00				
	Wages		21,990.00				
	Expenses		9,700.00				
	13. Bd. of Appeals, Wages		2,500.00				
	Expenses		495.00				
	14. Economic Development I.C.						
	Expenses		2,500.00				
	15. Task Force to Broaden Tax Base		0.00				
	16. Cable Access TV Oper.		1550.00				
	17. Conservation Commission, Salary		40,615.00		3,500.00 Wetland Hearing Fee Acct		
	Wages		10,225.00				
	Expenses		3,025.00				
	PUBLIC SAFETY (Total)	**1,968,761.00**					
	18. Police Dept., Salary		121,813.00				
	Wages		1,039,427.00				
	Expenses		116,139.00				
	19.Emergency Medical Services, Wages		204,511.00				
	Expenses		83,850.00				
	20. Fire Dept., Salary		54,879.00				
	Full Time Wages		57,100.00				
	Wages		70,000.00				
	Expenses		54,506.00				
	21. Injured On Duty, Expenses		10,000.00				
	22. Hydrant Service, Expenses		20,515.00				
	23. Dog Officer, Salary (Dog Officer)		1,200.00				
	Salary (Asst.Dog Officer)		600.00				
	Wages		10,976.00				
	Expenses		5,670.00				
	24. Inspection Services, Salary		44,115.00				
	Wages		59,500.00				
	Expenses		12,440.00				
	25. Civil Defense, Wages		350.00				
	Expenses		1,170.00				
	PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Total)	**17,103,676.00**					
	26. Town School Dept.						
	Foundation Spending		15,846,344.00	200,00.00			
	Transport and Fixed Assets		1,057,332.00				
	REGIONAL SCHOOL DEPT. (Total)	**893,826.00**					
	27. Pathfinder Reg.Voc.Tech. High School District		893,826.00				
	DPW – HIGHWAYS (Total)	**797,433.00**					
	28. DPW – Highway/Personnel, Salary		54,879.00				
	Wages		423,021.00				
	Uniforms		4,840.00				
	Expenses		750.00				

ARTICLE #	BUDGET OR DEPT	TOTAL APPROPRIATON	FROM TAX LEVY	FROM STABILIZ FUND	FROM OTHER AVAIL FUNDS	FROM BORROWING	FROM FREE CASH
29 (cont'd)	**DPW – HIGHWAYS** (cont'd)						
	29. DPW - Highway Admin, Expenses		4,175.00				
	30. DPW - Snow & Ice Control, Expenses		95,050.00				
	31. DPW – Road Machinery		62,200.00				
	32. DPW – Hired Services		45,628.00				
	33. DPW – Street Lighting		28,000.00				
	34. DPW – Construction Materials		59,800.00				
	35. DPW – Professional Engineering		5,500.00				
	36. DPW – Town Garage		13,590.00				
	SANITATION & ENVIRONMENTAL (Total)	**212,725.00**					
	37. Transfer Station, Wages				63,825.00 (Lndfill Rcts)		
	Expenses				20,079.00 (Lndfill Rcts)		128,821.00(Lnd fill Ent Free Cash)
	Hazardous Waste Day		0.00				
	38. Sewer Enterprises Fund (Total)	**1,066,783.00**					
	Wages				30,250.00 (Sewr Rcts)		134,294.00 (Sewr Ent Free Cash
	Expenses				286,316.00 (Sewr Rcts)		
	Maturing Debt		293,070.00		200,530.00 (Sewr Rcts)		
	Maturing Debt Interest		122,323.00				
	HUMAN SERVICES (Total)	**400,022.00**					
	39. Bd. of Health, Salary		2,825.00				
	Wages		690.00				3742.00
	Expenses						15,383.00
	40. Council on Aging, Salary		42,231.00				
	Wages		228,445.00				
	Expenses		26,980.00				
	41. Veterans Services						
	Agent Salary		8,652.00				
	Agent Expenses		1,975.00				
	Veterans Benefits		40,000.00				
	42.Veterans Graves, Expenses		925.00				
	43. DPW – Cemetery Department, Wages		12,000.00				
	Expenses		15,974.00				
	44. Mobile Home/Rent Control Bd.						
	Expenses		200.00				
	CULTURE AND RECREATION (Total)	**512,690.00**					
	45. Clapp Memorial Library, Salary		49,497.00				
	Wages		163,711.00				
	Expenses		52,395.00				
	46. Parks and Recreation, Salary		38,734.00				
	Wages		95,736.00				
	Expenses		9,672.00				
	47. Parks and Recreation Pool, Expenses		47,170.00				
	48. Parks and Recreation Beach						
	Wages & Expenses		18,355.00				

ARTICLE #	BUDGET OR DEPT	TOTAL APPROPRIATON	FROM TAX LEVY	FROM STABILIZ FUND	FROM OTHER AVAIL FUNDS	FROM BORROWING	FROM FREE CASH
29 (cont'd)	49. Teen Center Wages		34,610.00				
	Expenses		2,810.00				
	DPW – BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS (Total)	**452,267.00**					
	50. Maintenance/Grounds, Wages		250,475.00				
	Expenses		33,300.00				
	51. Lawrence Memorial Hall, Expenses		31,590.00				
	52. Town Common, Expenses		1,450.00				
	53. Town Clock, Wages		600.00				
	54. Finnerty House, Expenses		3,650.00				
	55. Old Town Hall, Expenses		5,034.00				
	56. Senior Center Bldg., Expenses		31,338.00				
	57. Teen Center Bldg., Expenses		14,210.00				
	58. Police Station, Expenses		33,680.00				
	59. EMS Bldg., Expenses		8,450.00				
	60. Freedom Center, Expenses		10,340.00				
	61. Meadow Bldg., Expenses		9,000.00				
	62. Fire Station, Expenses		19,150.00				
	PENSION AND INSURANCE (Total)	**1,535,252.00**					
	63. General Insurance, Expenses		197,500.00				
	64. Unemployment Insurance, Expenses		10,000.00				
	65. Workers Compensation Insurance, Expenses		36,203.00				
	66. Health Insurance, Expenses		453,000.00				
	67. Group Life Insurance, Expenses		6,000.00				
	68. FICA – Medicare – Town Share, Expenses		46,000.00				
	69. Pensions, Expenses		786,549.00				
	UNCLASSIFIED ACCOUNTS	**50,148.00**					
	70. Historical Commission Expenses						500.00
	71. Historical District, Expenses						348.00
	72. Patriotic Exercises, Expenses						300.00
	73. Printing Annual Reports, Expenses						4,000.00
	74. Unclassified Account, Expenses						45,000.00
	INTEREST AND MATURING DEBT (Total)	**4,645,297.00**					
	75. Interest, Expenses		1,534,754.00		394,543.00(High School Construction Interest Acct)		
	76. Maturing Debt, Expenses		2,716,000.00				
	COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (Total)	**56,372.00**					
	77. Council of Government, Assessment						56,372.00
30	NONE						
31	**Workers' Compensation Trust Fund** (Total)	**22,000.00**	22,000.00				
	GRAND TOTALS	**30,981,074.00**	**29,357,771.00**	**200,000.00**	**1,004,443.00**	---	**418,860.00**

Attest: William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

Action taken at the Special Town Meeting held December 2, 2002 at Chestnut Hill Community School Auditorium

FY03

Moderator – Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:43PM
Registered voters present – 88 (Quorum required – 75)
The Assistant Town Clerk read the Return of the Warrant

Article 1 Voted to rescind the authorization to borrow $125,000 for the Title V Septic Loan Program and $107,600 for the purchase of the Reed Property. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Majority Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 2 Voted to amend the zoning map, as previously amended, to correct an error in how the map is presently shown; specifically, to show the land identified on the Assessors' maps as Map 252, Lots 40, 41, and 42, at the corner of State Street and Dressel Avenue in its correct zone of B1, Limited Business, instead of Ag-B, Rural Residential, thus correcting a mapping mistake. (Public Hearing 10/8/2002. After hearing endorsed by Planning Board 5-0-0)

(2/3 Vote Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 3 Voted to amend the zoning map, as previously amended, to change the zoning of land along State Street from its current zones of LI, Light Industrial and Ag-A, Primary Agricultural, to B1, Limited Business, such land identified as follows: Assessors' parcels Map 243 Lot 153, Map 243 Lot 154, Map 250 Lot 18, Map 250 Lot 55, and the so-called Parcel F of the former Belchertown State School as recorded in Plan Book 192 Page 20 at the Hampshire Registry of Deeds, in their entirety; part of Map 243 Lot 178 east of a line between the west corner of Map 250 Lot 55 and the northwest corner of Map 250 Lot 21; and the area of Map 250 Lot 20 presently zoned as Ag-A, Primary Agricultural. These parcels are the front of the former State School on the north side of State Street, including two private parcels, the Parcel F retained by the commonwealth for a possible courthouse, the Town's land with the Police Station, Senior Center and other municipal buildings, and a small piece of the EDIC's parcel; these parcels are also two privately-owned parcels on the south side of State Street, including the location of an existing glass business. Land within these parcels to be zoned entirely B1, Limited Business. (Public Hearing 11/26/02. After hearing endorsed by Planning Board 3-0-0)

(2/3 Vote Required – 2/3 Voice Vote Yes)

Article 4 Voted not to amend the zoning map, as previously amended, to change the zoning of land at 107 Turkey Hill Road, identified as Assessors' Map 250 Lot 31, from Ag-A, Primary Agricultural, to B2, General Business. (Public Hearing 11/12/02. After hearing Planning Board voted not to endorse this article, 0-5-0)

(2/3 Vote Required – Unanimous Voice Vote No)

Article 5 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $103,800.00 for the following items: (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

- Highway Plow - $7,500.00
- Maintenance Vehicle - $29,000.00
- Landfill Gas Mitigation - $5,000.00
- Engineering for Stormwater Permits - $23,800.00
- Police Cruiser - $28,500.00
- Office Renovations and Relocation - $10,000.00

(Majority Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 6 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $90,000.00 to the General Insurance Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Majority Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 7 Voted to appropriate under Chapter 53C the sum of $149,722.64 to Contract #2501353, for improvement of town roads. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Majority Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 8 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $21,150.00 to the following accounts to restore them to FY2002 funding levels: (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

- DPW Construction Materials/Streets Account - $7,500.00
- DPW Hired Services Account - $5,200.00
- Town Common - $1,750.00
- Transfer Station Expenses - $2,500.00

- Sewer Department Expenses for lab equipment - $4,200.00

(Majority Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 9 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $223,756.000 to the following accounts for the Town share of health insurance: (endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

- Health Insurance-Town Share - $67,256.00
- Sewer Department Expense Health Insurance - $4,000.00
- Landfill Expense Health Insurance - $2,500.00
- Schools #5000 Health Insurance - $150,000.00

(Majority Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 10 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $53,000.00 to the following accounts: (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

- Maintenance Wage Account - $26,000.00
- Computer Wage Account - $27,000.00

(Majority Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 11 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $297,247.00 to School Department #9000 account for special education. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Majority Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 12 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury $168,460.00 to the Town Match for School Renovation Grant. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Majority Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 13 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of $700,000.00 to the Stabilization Fund. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Majority Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Article 14 Voted to accept Two Ponds Road as an accepted way within the Town of Belchertown:

Two Ponds Road as shown on an "As Built" plan known as "Hunter Hill Subdivision" and provided by Sherman & Woods dated November 7, 2002 and recorded with the Hampshire Country Registry of Deeds in Northampton, Book 194, Page 81, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire any necessary easements by purchase, gift or eminent domain in connection therewith,

(2/3 Vote Required – Unanimous Voice Vote Yes)

Voted to Dissolve meeting at 8:30PM.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Attest:

Colleen K. Toothill-Berte
Assistant Town Clerk

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION MAY 20, 2002

*Denotes elected

Office	Name		Prec A	Prec.B	Prec.C	Prec.D	Total
Moderator	*Terry Scott Nagel		214	192	261	110	777
1 year	Sundry Writeins		1	4	6	2	13
(Vote for One)		Blanks	56	34	71	31	192
		Total	271	230	338	143	982
Selectmen	*Ronald E. Aponte		197	158	214	102	671
3 years	William J. Huber		72	70	119	40	301
(Vote for One)	Sundry Writeins		0	0	3	0	3
		Blanks	2	2	2	1	7
		Total	271	230	338	143	982
School Committee	* Edward R. Mitnick		187	171	235	104	697
3 years	* Richard D. White		191	173	253	100	717
(Vote for Two)	Sundry Writeins		2	10	10	2	24
		Blanks	162	106	178	80	526
		Total	542	460	676	286	1964
Planning Board	*Elizabeth C. Chase		189	174	251	106	719
5 years	Sundry Writeins		8	1	3	1	13
(Vote for One)		Blanks	74	55	84	36	250
		Total	271	230	338	143	982
Board of Assessors	*Deborah M. Sammataro (Write in)		11	11	46	20	88
3 years	W. Daniel Fitzpatrick		0	3	6	1	10
(Vote for One)	Sundry Writeins		8	8	10	5	31
		Blanks	252	208	276	117	853
		Total	271	230	338	143	982
Board of Health	*Kenneth Nolan		102	108	165	50	425
3 years	*Lisa Walters-Zucco		165	124	184	83	556
(Vote for Two)	W. Daniel Fitzpatrick		76	67	96	46	285
	Sundry Writeins		0	5	5	0	10
		Blanks	199	156	226	107	688
		Total	542	460	676	286	1964

Votes cast on 5/20/2002	Prec A	Prec B	Prec C	Prec D	Totals
(12.3% Voted)	271	230	338	143	982
Registered Voters					
Democrat	538	547	588	565	2238
Republican	318	323	404	199	1244
Libertarian	7	13	14	11	45
MA Green	11	6	7	17	41
Unenrolled	1032	1112	1209	1043	4396
Other	4	2	1	3	10
TOTALS	**1910**	**2003**	**2223**	**1838**	**7974**

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

STATE PRIMARY SEPTEMBER 17, 2002
Belchertown, Massachusetts

DEMOCRAT		PRECINCTS				
OFFICE	CANDIDATE NAME	A	B	C	D	TOTAL
Senator in Congress	John Kerry	241	187	241	231	900
(Vote for One)	Blanks	32	29	43	25	129
	Sundry Write-ins	0	0	0	2	2
	Total	273	216	284	258	1031
Governor	Thomas Birmingham	47	57	59	29	192
(Vote for One)	Steven Grossman	0	0	3	0	3
	Shannon O'Brien	71	65	99	72	307
	Robert Reich	120	57	63	127	367
	Warren Tolman	32	36	57	30	155
	Blanks	3	1	2	0	6
	Sundry Write-ins	0	0	1	0	1
	Total	273	216	284	258	1031
Lt. Governor	Chris. Gabrieli	116	89	147	99	451
(Vote for One)	Lois Pines	65	52	45	72	234
	John Slattery	48	47	45	37	177
	Blanks	43	27	45	50	165
	Sundry Write-ins	1	1	2	0	4
	Total	273	216	284	258	1031
Atty General	Thomas Reilly	206	168	213	180	767
(Vote for One)	Blanks	66	48	70	78	262
	Sundry Write-ins	1	0	1	0	2
	Total	273	216	284	258	1031
Sec of State	William F Galvin	198	170	206	178	752
(Vote for One)	Blanks	74	46	77	80	277
	Sundry Write-ins	1	0	1	0	2
	Total	273	216	284	258	1031
Treasurer	Michael Cahill	54	50	58	56	218
(Vote for One)	Tiimothy Cahill	57	39	63	52	211
	Stephen Murphy	30	28	47	20	125
	James Segel	45	47	52	38	182
	Blanks	87	52	63	91	293
	Sundry Write-ins	0	0	1	1	2
	Total	273	216	284	258	1031
Auditor	A.Joseph DeNucci	171	154	188	168	681
(Vote for One)	Blanks	102	62	95	90	349
	Sundry Write-ins	0	0	1	0	1
	Total	273	216	284	258	1031
Rep in Congress	John Olver	232	187	222	218	859
First District	Blanks	41	29	61	38	169
(Vote for One)	Sundry Write-ins	0	0	1	2	3
	Total	273	216	284	258	1031

STATE PRIMARY SEPTEMBER 17, 2002
Belchertown, Massachusetts

			PRECINCTS				
			A	B	C	D	TOTAL
Councillor Eighth District (Vote for One)	Edward O'Brien		119	99	130	101	449
	Aaron Wilson		86	85	101	87	359
	Blanks		68	32	52	69	221
	Sundry Write-ins		0	0	1	1	2
	Total		273	216	284	258	1031
Senator in Gen Court Hampshire & Franklin Districts (Vote for One)	Stanley Rosenberg	Prec. A & D	215			213	428
	Blanks		58			44	102
	Sundry Write-ins		0			1	1
	Total		273			258	531
Senator in Gen Court First Hampden & Hampshire District (Vote for One)	Blanks	Prec. B & C		213	281		494
	Sundry Write-ins			3	3		6
	Total			216	284		500
Rep in General Ct First Franklin District (Vote for One)	Stephen Kulik	Prec. A & D	194			177	371
	Blanks		79			81	160
	Sundry Write-ins		0			0	0
	Total		273			258	531
Rep in General Ct Seventh Hampden District	Thomas Petrolati	Prec. B & C		167	210		377
	Blanks			48	74		122
	Sundry Write-ins			1	0		1
	Total			216	284		500
District Atty Northwestern District (Vote for One)	Blanks		271	214	284	255	1024
	Sundry Write-ins		2	2	0	3	7
	Total		273	216	284	258	1031
Register of Probate Hampshire County (Vote for One)	Johanna Collins		20	24	33	29	106
	Mary Ford		100	77	90	112	379
	David Sullivan		63	45	48	61	217
	Thomas Sullivan		62	56	83	31	232
	Blanks		27	14	29	25	95
	Sundry Write-ins		1	0	1	0	2
	Total		273	216	284	258	1031

REPUBLICAN		PRECINCTS				
OFFICE	**CANDIDATE NAME**	A	B	C	D	TOTAL
Senator in Congress (Vote for One)	Blanks	81	91	138	60	370
	Sundry Write-ins	1	2	4	3	10
	Total	82	93	142	63	380
Governor (Vote for One)	Mitt Romney	73	80	114	57	324
	Blanks	9	12	26	5	52
	Sundry Write-ins	0	1	2	1	4
	Total	82	93	142	63	380

STATE PRIMARY SEPTEMBER 17, 2002
Belchertown, Massachusetts

			PRECINCTS				
			A	B	C	D	TOTAL
Lt. Governor	Kerry Murphy Healey		49	45	61	29	184
(Vote for One)	Jim Rappaport		32	47	78	34	191
	Blanks		1	1	3	0	5
	Sundry Write-ins		0	0	0	0	0
	Total		82	93	142	63	380
Atty General	Blanks		81	92	140	62	375
(Vote for One)	Sundry Write-ins		1	1	2	1	5
	Total		82	93	142	63	380
Sec of State	Jack E. Robinson,III		43	60	75	41	219
(Vote for One)	Blanks		38	33	65	22	158
	Sundry Write-ins		1	0	2	0	3
	Total		82	93	142	63	380
Treasurer	Daniel Grabauskas		29	49	48	27	153
(Vote for One)	Bruce Herzfelder		32	29	64	24	149
	Blanks		20	15	29	12	76
	Sundry Write-ins		1	0	1	0	2
	Total		82	93	142	63	380
Auditor	Blanks		82	93	140	63	378
(Vote for One)	Sundry Write-ins		0	0	2	0	2
	Total		82	93	142	63	380
Rep in Congress	Matthew Kinnaman		58	66	47	44	215
First District	Blanks		23	27	93	19	162
(Vote for One)	Sundry Write-ins		1	0	2	0	3
	Total		82	93	142	63	380
Councillor	Blanks		81	93	140	61	375
Eighth District	Sundry Write-ins		1	0	2	2	5
(Vote for One)	**Total**		82	93	142	63	380
Senator in Gen Court							
Hampshire & Franklin	Blanks	Prec. A & D	81			61	142
Districts	Sundry Write-ins		1			2	3
(Vote for One)	**Total**		82			63	145
Senator in Gen Court	Brian Lees	Prec. B & C		78	100		178
First Hampden & Hamshire	Blanks			15	41		56
District	Sundry Write-ins			0	1		1
(Vote for One)	**Total**			93	142		235
Rep in General Ct	James Gagne	Prec. A & D	51			40	91
First Franklin District	Blanks		31			23	54
(Vote for One)	Sundry Write-ins		0			0	0
	Total		82			63	145
Rep in General Ct	Blanks	Prec. B & C		88	132		220
Seventh Hampden District	Sundry Write-ins			5	10		15
	Total			93	142		235

STATE PRIMARY SEPTEMBER 17, 2002
Belchertown, Massachusetts

		PRECINCTS				
		A	B	C	D	TOTAL
District Atty	Elizabeth Scheibel	56	67	96	44	263
Northwestern District	Blanks	25	26	45	19	115
(Vote for One)	Sundry Write-ins	1	0	1	0	2
	Total	82	93	142	63	380
Register of Probate						
Hampshire County	Blanks	67	77	119	57	320
(Vote for One)	Sundry Write-ins	15	16	23	6	60
	Total	82	93	142	63	380

LIBERTARIAN		PRECINCTS				
OFFICE	**CANDIDATE NAME**	A	B	C	D	TOTAL
Senator in Congress (Vote for One)	Michael Cloud	1		1		2
Governor (Vote for One)	Carla Howell	1		1		2
Auditor (Vote for One)	Jain Kamal	1		1		2

GREEN		PRECINCTS				
OFFICE	**CANDIDATE NAME**	A	B	C	D	TOTAL
Governor (Vote for One)	Jill Stein		1	2		3
Lt. Governor (Vote for One)	Anthony Lorenzen		1	2		3
Treasurer (Vote for One)	James O'Keefe		1	2		3

Registered Voters	**PRECINCTS**	A	B	C	D	TOTAL
	Democrat	537	537	578	571	2223
	Republican	321	321	402	198	1242
	Unenrolled	1057	1104	1214	1034	4409
	Libertarian	10	14	14	11	49
	Mass. Green	14	6	7	20	47
	Others	4	2	1	2	9
	TOTALS	1943	1984	2216	1836	7979

Voted on 9/17/2002	**PRECINCTS**	A	B	C	D	TOTAL
	Democrat	273	216	284	258	1031
	Republican	81	94	142	62	379
	Libertarian	1	0	1	0	2
	Mass. Green	0	1	2	0	3
	TOTALS	355	311	429	320	1415

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

2003
Annual Town Report

Town of [illegible]

2003

Annual Town Report

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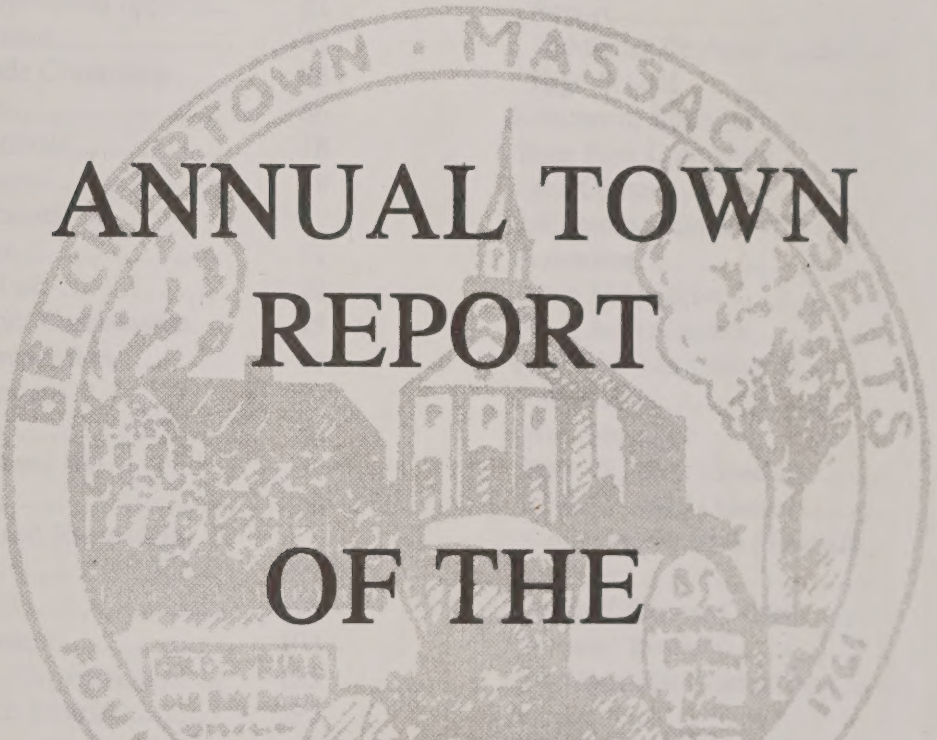
BHS
mbulance
BULAN
BELCHERTOWN

Town of Belchertown



2003

ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN

~ DEDICATION PAGE ~

Louise E. Wadsworth Blood
1922-2003

Louise E. Wadsworth Blood lived most of her life in Belchertown. Many will remember Louise as the co-founder of the Belchertown Senior Center. With remarkable dedication and determination to provide and expand upon services for our senior population, she served as co-Director of the Center for nineteen years, stepping down in 1990 to enjoy her own "golden years" in retirement. Mrs. Wadsworth Blood was a communicant of St Francis Church.

John O. Davis
1944-2003

A lifelong resident and a graduate of Belchertown High School, John was very dedicated to many town organizations, especially the Belchertown High School Band. The Town honored Mr. Davis for his outstanding contributions to our community on "John Davis Day", June 12, 2003. Along with his wife Mary, he received the 1991 "Volunteer of the Year" award.

Mr. Davis was also a member of the Belchertown Congregational Church, and of the Amherst Railway Society. He was a former member of the Lions Club and the Grange.

Gould Ketchen
1919-2003

Born and raised in Belchertown, Gould Ketchen lived in the same house his entire life. He was very active in our community working with many youth groups and as a member of the Congregational Church, leader of the local Republican Party and a Mason.

He represented the 12th generation of his family to live and work in the Pioneer Valley. With a great love of area history, he lectured locally and shared his personal experiences working with Swift River Valley communities before their demise with the creation of Quabbin Reservoir.

Mr. Ketchen earned a BS in Engineering from the University of Massachusetts and founded Quabbin Industries, serving as its President for over 25 years. Among many innovations, he pioneered the use of computer technology in millwork and metal deep hole drilling. After retiring from manufacturing, he pursued a career as a real estate broker for nearly two decades.

~ IN MEMORIAM ~

Paul Aldrich
Claire Austin
Bernard Babcock, Sr.
Edward Bartel
Donald Beall
Francis Belisle, Sr.
Richard Besse
Wallace Bisnette
Louise Blood
Tom Boode-Petersen
Carrie Booth
Raymond Boulais
Michael Brown
James Cabey, Jr.
Doris Carson
Wilma Cashin
Helen Cassells
Sophia Cebula
Bruce Charland

* * *

Raymond Cote
Agnes Dallaire
John Davis
Dorothy Dow
Francis Donahue
Conrad Ducharme
Doris Dunbar
Virginia Eldridge
Maurice Fortin
Jeneva Garfield
Francis Goodrow

George Goss
Shirley Grabowski
Anastasia Hannah
Robert Harris
Denise Hebert
Elizabeth Hennessy
Edward Honeysett, Sr.

* * *

Eveline Horr
Wallace Howe
William Jekot
Robert Johns
Julia Keegan
Ruth Kelley
Gould Ketchen
Westy Kobylanski
Edith Lacey
Roland Leverault
Cynthia Lindsey
Maria Maidana
Edward Manning
Eldia Manning
Arthur Martineau

* * *

Philip Maynard, Sr.
John Melnick, Jr.
William Miles
Arthur Moriarty, Jr.
Arthur Morrissette
Joseph Nadeau

Maxwell Parsons
Sarah Patruno
Arthur Pepin
Stefan Piekos
Carol Pierce
George Pixley, Jr.
Rose Plumadore
Mildred Riedel
James Rioux
Richard Rock
Doris Romansky
Elizabeth Routhier
Harvey Samson
Doris Schubach
Rachel Searle
William Senecal
John Stokosa, Jr.
Joseph Socha
Carol Squires

* * *

Maria Taberne
Joseph Vivenzio
Saveria Voss
Edmund Wallace
William Watson
Clair White
Albert Winskye
Ida Williams
George Wiesinger
Peter Wright
Joseph Youngsaye

2003 ELECTED OFFICERS

Almoners - Whiting Street and Susan M.D. Bridgman Funds

Linda E. Barron	5/2004
Suzanne M. Bay	5/2004

Trustees – Calvin Bridgman Fund

Sylvia C. Conkey	5/2004
Kenneth H. Snow	5/2004
Ann Austin Pratt	5/2005

Councilor-Hampshire Council of Governments

William R. Barnett	5/2005
Linda E. Barron(appt 8/11/03)	5/2004
Joseph V. Ricco(appt 8/11/03)	5/2004

Board of Assessors

Samuel J. Joyal	5/2004
Michael P. Forgue	5/2006
Deborah M. Sammataro	5/2005

Board of Health

Gail L. Gramarossa	5/2004
Gary R. Racicot	5/2004
Roger M. Bonsall	5/2006
Lisa Walter-Zucco	5/2005
Kenneth Nolan	5/2005

Housing Authority

James J. Gambaro	5/2006
Tracey L. Thompson	5/2005
Sally M. Dodge	5/2004
Kenneth D. Nolan	5/2008
F. Knowlton Utley (State Mbr)	2/11/07

Moderator

Terry Scott Nagel	5/2004

Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District Committee Members

Judith C. Dudek	11/2004
Michael A. O'Connor	11/2006

Planning Board

Joe D. Gilman, Jr.	5/2006
Daniel R. Beaudette	5/2005
James J. Natle	5/2004
James A. Barry	5/2008
Elizabeth C. Chase	5/2007

School Committee

Mary Ellen O'Reilly Bracey	5/2004
Sharon D. Barnett	5/2006
Barbara Schaffer Bacon	5/2006
Edward R. Mitnick (resigned 1/1/03	5/2005
Richard D. White	5/2005
Eric L. Weiss (appt 1/28/03)	5/19/05

Board of Selectmen

Michael J. Reardon	5/2004
Steven D. Rose	5/2004
Ronald E. Aponte	5/2005
Gerald A. Grasso	5/2006
Linda E. Barron	5/2006

Town Clerk

William R. Barnett	5/2006

2003 APPOINTED OFFICERS

Town Accountant

Jill M. Besancon	6/30/04

Assistant Town Accountant

Kimberly O'Grady	6/30/04

Town Administrator

Gary L. Brougham	6/30/07

Americans with Disabilities Act Committee

Paul Adzima, Coordinator	Final Report
Max Bock	Final Report
Gary L. Brougham	Final Report
Lee Concheri	Final Report
Sally Dodge	Final Report
Judith Metcalf	Final Report
Ruthella Tucker	Final Report
Steven J. Williams	Final Report

Director of Assessments (appointed by Board of Assessors)

John G. Whelihan	6/30/04

Civil Defense Director

Edward F. Bock	6/30/04

Civil Defense Deputy Director

Mark S. Brouillette	6/30/04

Civil Defense Radio Officer

Ronald R. Beaver	6/30/04

* * *

Belchertown's Community Emergency Response Coordinator

Edward F. Bock

Western Mass. Regional Local-Emergency Planning Committee Inc. (WMR-LEPC)

Edward F. Bock (appt 6/16/03)	10/15/04

Conservation Commission

Alfred P. Gallant, Jr.	6/30/04
Edward T. Knight	6/30/04
David M. Haines	6/30/06
Robert J. Rizzo	6/30/06
Joseph K. Babineau	6/30/05
John Clements	6/30/06
Bruce Tolpa, (appt 2/24/03)	6/30/05
Kurt Nelson, Associate	6/30/04
Patrick Lund, Associate (appt 5/5/03)	6/30/04
Paul Eurkus (resigned 1/31/03)	6/30/05

Constables

Andrew Sears	6/30/04

Council on Aging

James R. Collard	6/30/04
Mildred Christenson	6/30/04
Doris M. Dickinson	6/30/04
George Dion (resigned 9/23/03)	6/30/04
William Kimball	6/30/06
Charlene Forgue (appt 9/15/03)	6/30/06
Ethel Casey	6/30/03
Marian Panto	6/30/06
Sally Dodge	6/30/05
Josephine Fitzgerald	6/30/05
Joan Poole	6/30/05
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick	6/30/05

Name Office Term Expires

Belchertown Cultural Council

Katherine Fitzgerald	6/30/04
Sharon Cady-Harrison	6/30/06
Ljuba Marsh	6/30/06
MaryEllen Miller	6/30/05
Martina Robinson	6/30/05
Melanie S. Lewis	6/30/05
Arose Nielsen	6/30/04
Joyce Harper (appt 12/8/03)	6/30/06

Dog Officer

Terri Hazzard (appt 5/27/03)	4/30/04
Debra R. Michaud	4/30/03

Assistant Dog Officer

Lianne Webster (appt 6/2/03)	4/30/04
Sonya MacPhail (appt 6/2/03) (resigned 10/23/03)	4/30/04
Terri Hazzard	4/30/04

Economic Development & Industrial Corporation (EDIC)

Peter S. Galuszka At-Large Seat	6/30/04
William A. Terry Government Seat	6/30/04
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick Financial Seat	6/30/04
Kirk Stephens At- Large Seat	6/30/06
Lloyd C. Chadbourne Low Income Seat	6/30/05
Richard Steiner Real Estate Seat	6/30/05
Loy Harris Industrial Seat (appt 9/15/03)	6/30/06
Paul Anziano, Associate	6/30/04
J. David Marley, Associate	6/30/04
Elizabeth Taras, Associate (appt 1/6/03)	6/30/04

Name Office Term Expires

EDIC Continued

Scott P. Allen, Associate (appt 11/10/03)	6/30/04
David Mears, Associate (appt 1/13/03) (resigned 9/30/03)	6/30/04
Eugenie Barry (resigned 1/13/03)	6/30/03

EMS Operations Manager

Steven A. Syriac

EMS Department

David Conkey Call EMT-Intermediate	6/30/04
Kerry Gaughen	6/30/03
Bruce Jenks Call EMT-Basic	6/30/04
Frances Lofland	6/30/03
Thomas Majerowski Call EMT-Basic	6/30/04
Erica Larner	6/30/03
Hiram Rodriguez (appt 6/24/03)	6/30/03
Ryan Humason Call EMT-Basic	6/30/04
William Gray Call EMT-Paramedic	6/30/04
Scott Kier Call EMT-Paramedic	6/30/04
Jonathan T. Smith-Call EMT-Paramedic	6/30/04
Jaime Lubelczyk-Call EMT-Paramedic (appt 9/15/03)	6/30/04
Carol Gagner – Call EMT Basic	6/30/04
Rachel Olbrys-Call EMT	6/30/03
Kristina Mitchell-Call EMT-Basic	6/30/04
Brina Fondi-Call EMT-Basic	6/30/04
Richard Blomstrom Call EMT-Paramedic (appt 6/16/03)	6/30/04
Stephen Kavanagh Call EMT-Paramedic (appr 6/16/03)	6/30/04

EMS Department continued

Wes Stevenson Call EMT-Basic (appt 6/16/03)	6/30/04
Wardell Cox (appt 9/22/03) EMT-Paramedic	6/30/04
Randy Barnes (appt 12/15/03) EMT-Basic	6/30/04
Edward Dalbeck (appt 12/15/03) EMT-Paramedic	6/30/04

Fair Committee

William Austin	6/30/04
Marguerite Brennen	6/30/04
Cindy Brown	6/30/04
Kevin Brown	6/30/04
Carla Chaisson	6/30/04
Kevin LaCroix	6/30/04
Peg Louraine	6/30/04
Mark Nute	6/30/04
Cathy A. Terry	6/30/04

Belchertown Family Center

Lucy Klein	6/30/04
Karen Horak (resigned 10/31/03)	6/30/04
Angie Tauer	6/30/06
Katherine J. Atkinson	6/30/06
Richard Poissant	6/30/05

Finance Committee

Luc Hardyn (resigned 7/03)	6/30/04
Elise Wright	6/30/03
Daniel P. Kloss	6/30/04
David A. Reed	6/30/05
Paul M. Silva	6/30/05
Themis Tsoumas (appt 12/7/03)	6/30/06

Fire Chief

Edward F. Bock

Forest Fire Warden

Edward F. Bock

Hampshire County Local Emergency Planning Committee

Edward F. Bock

Hampshire Council of Government's Electric Cooperative Committee

Gary Brougham

Board of Health – Appointments

Burial Agent

William R. Barnett	6/30/04

Quabbin Health District

Judy Metcalf, Dir. Of Public Health	6/30/04
Randall Gauley,Health Inspector	6/30/04

Physician Advisor to Board of Health

Yih-Ming Hsiao, M.D.	6/30/04

Inspector of Animals

Gary Racicot	2/28/04

High School Building Committee

Douglas Albertson	Final Report
Eric Bernardin	Final Report
Edward J. Ciosek	Final Report
Patrick S. Daly	Final Report
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick	Final Report
Gerald A. Grasso	Final Report
Simon James	Final Report
Robert Lachance	Final Report
Elizabeth Radwilowicz	Final Report
Franklin D. Wenzel	Final Report

High School Building Committee Continued

Name	Term Expires
Richard White	Final Report
James Brown, Associate Member	
David M. Sammataro, Associate Member	
Melissa Michaud, Non Voting Adjunct Mbr	
Thomas O'Donnell, Jr. (non-voting mbr)	
Richard Pazasis, Ex-Officio	

Historical Commission

Name	Term Expires
Kenneth F. Kitchell, Jr.	6/30/04
Judith Fuller Gillan	6/30/04
Leslie Squires	6/30/05
Loy Harris – Associate Mbr (appt 9/15/03)	6/30/04
Bonnie Strickland	6/30/05
Ethel M. Brunson	6/30/05
F. Knowlton Utley (appt 9/15/03)	6/30/06
Genevieve G. Schreiber	6/30/06
Michael F. Dolan (appt 7/22/03)	6/30/03

Historic District Commission

Name	Term Expires
Jacqueline Dupre	6/30/04
Annie M. Steiner	6/30/06
Louis Faassen	6/30/03
Stacy M. Race	6/30/05
Beth A. Behn	6/30/05

Holiday Lighting Committee

Final report submitted	1/27/03

Industrial Development Financing Authority (IDFA)

Name	Office	Term Expires
David Barszcz	Real Estate Seat	6/30/06
Paul Dansereau	Financial Seat	6/30/05
Steven Rose	At Large Seat	6/30/04
Barry Crosby	At Large Seat	6/30/04

Inspector of Buildings

Name	Term Expires
Paul Adzima	6/30/05

Assistant Inspector of Buildings

Name	Term Expires
Michael T. Henry	6/30/04

Inspector of Plumbing and Gas Fittings

Name	Term Expires
David Fredenburgh, Jr.	6/30/04

Assistant Inspector of Plumbing and Gas Fittings

Name	Term Expires
Christopher A. Hubbard	6/30/04

Inspector of Wiring

Name	Term Expires
Paul Choiniere	6/30/04

Assistant Inspector of Wiring

Name	Term Expires
Douglas Rae	6/30/04
Harvey Beaupre (appt 6/16/03) (Resigned 8/30/03)	6/30/04

Personnel Board

Name	Term Expires
Maureen A. Wildey	6/30/04
Julie W. Peck	6/30/04
M. Florine Neggers	6/30/06
Themis J. Tsoumas (resigned 12/12/03)	6/30/06
David C. Kuzmeski	6/30/05

Town Planner

Douglas Albertson

Planning Board – Alternate Voting Member for Special Permits

Name	Term Expires
George Synan	7/24/04

Police Candidate Review Committee All Appointed 2/10/2003

Bonnie Strickland	5/27/03
Jack Drawec	5/27/03
Al Roccanti	5/27/03
Orin Bracey, Jr.	5/27/03
Diane Smith	5/27/03

Police Chief

Francis R. Fox, Jr.	12/31/05

Police Department - Lieutenant

James Jackson (appt 6/30/03)	6/30/04
William C. Zobka - retired 1/1/03)	6/30/03

Police Department – Sergeants (Full-time)

James Jackson, Jr.	6/30/03
Bruce Jenks (appt 6/30/03))	6/30/04
David Conkey (appt 6/30/03)	6/30/04
Kevin Pacunas (appt 7/17/03)	6/30/04
Ernest M. Gay, Jr. (retired 1/1/03)	6/30/03

Police Department – Patrol Officer (Full-time)

Roy F. Bergeron	6/30/04
Sean Bracey	6/30/04
David A. Conkey	6/30/03
Bruce Jenks	6/30/03
Edward H. Oey	6/30/04
Kevin J. Pacunas	6/30/04
William A. Panto	6/30/04
Kevin G. Truehart	6/30/04
James Daniels	6/30/04
Jeffrey Scott	6/30/04
Valerie Cote	6/30/04
Adam Brougham	6/30/04
Neil Lozier	6/30/04
John Raymer (appt 6/30/03)	6/30/04
Jason Krol (appt 6/30/03)	6/30/04

Police Department – Patrol Officers (Part-time)

John Bonafini	6/30/04
James Taylor	6/30/04
William C. Zobka, Jr.	6/30/04
Steven W. Henn, Jr. (appt 6/30/03)	6/30/04
Peter J. Gaj (appt 6/30/03)	6/30/04
Winthrop Kellogg	6/30/04
Susan Dawley (appt 6/30/03)	6/30/04
Susan Hamel (appt 6/30/03)	6/30/04
Linnea Lavoie-Bernard (appt 9/22/03)	6/30/04
Dennis M. Fitzgerald (appt 9/22/03)	6/30/04)

Police Station Building Committee

Peter Burton	Final Report
John B. Curry, III	Final Report
Susan Dawley	Final Report
Donna Deroin	Final Report
Robert W. Farrington	Final Report
Robert Henrichon	Final Report
Douglas Rae	Final Report
David Squires	Final Report
William Terry	Final Report

Robert Knight, Police Chief, Ex-Officio
Linda E. Barron, Selectman, Ex-Officio

Procurement Officer

Gary L. Brougham
Jill Besancon, Assistant (appt 1/21/03)

Public Weigher

Joseph W. Tolpa, Jr.	6/30/04

Public Works Director

Steven J. Williams

PVPC Joint Transportation Committee

Steven J. Williams	6/30/04
Gary Brougham, Alternate	6/30/04
Douglas Albertson, Alternate	6/30/04

PVTA Advisory Board

W. Daniel Fitzpatrick	6/30/04

PVPC (Pioneer Valley Planning Commission) Representatives

Daniel R. Beaudette	
Douglas Albertson, Alternate	6/30/04

Quabbin Health District Task Force Committee

Janise Fitzpatrick Voting member	Final Report
Raymond Goulet Voting member	Final Report
Robert Bishop Voting member	Final Report
Michael Reardon	Final Report

Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce Business Assistance Loan Program (Belchertown's Representative)

Gregory Galanek	6/30/04

Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce Regional Economic Development (Belchertown's Representatives)

Michael Reardon	Final Report
David Roberts	Final Report

Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee (Belchertown's Representative)

Richard Steiner

Rationing Board

David H. Squires	6/30/04
Richard F. Dzialo	6/30/06
Patricia J. Mitchell	6/30/05

Recreation Building Study Committee

Garry M. Bock	Final Report
David Cushing	Final Report
James Phaneuf	Final Report
Tilo R. Schiffer	Final Report
Themis J. Tsoumas	Final Report
Michael VanDyke	Final Report

Recreation Committee

Kathleen W. Scruton	6/30/04
Nancy A. Kwiatkowski	6/30/04
Thomas P. Kubacki	6/30/04
William Edlridge	6/30/06
Rebecca A. Smith	6/30/06
Robert L. Chartier	6/30/05
Bruce C. Smith	6/30/05
Chris Daley, Associate	6/30/04
Karen Schiffer, Associate	6/30/04

Recreation Director

Robert S. Opalenik

(Advisory) Regional Economic Development Commission – Regarding the Ware River Valley Regional Economic Target Area

W. Daniel Fitzpatrick

Registrars of Voters

Pauline C. Johnson	3/31/04
M. Florine Neggers	3/31/06
Dorothy A. Pomietlarz	3/31/05
William R. Barnett	6/30/06

Assistant Registrars of Voters

Robert Hansbury (Belchertown High School)	3/31/04
Richard M. Sinkoski (Pathfinder)	3/31/04

Precinct Coordinator

Marcel Archambault	6/30/03

Election Officers – Precinct A

Elizabeth Leger (Warden)	6/30/03
Helen Plant (Clerk) (resigned 12/10/03)	6/30/03

Election Officers – Precinct B

Diane Ricchiazzi (Warden)	6/30/03
Donna Abely (Clerk)	6/30/03

Election Officers – Precinct C

Eileen D. Staples (Warden)	6/30/03
Clara Very (Clerk)	6/30/03

Election Officers – Precinct D

Susan Dion (Warden)	6/30/03
Richard Barrell (Clerk)	6/30/03

Rent Control Board

Steven Syriac	6/30/06
Helen Plant	6/30/05
Mitchell Vincent	6/30/04
Tracy Steadman	6/30/03
Daniel Beaudette	6/30/07

Sealer of Weights and Measures

Paul Adzima	6/30/04

Senior Center Building Committee

Eva Terri Ericksberg	Final Report
Ellen Hall	Final Report
Samuel Joyal	Final Report
William F. Kimball, Jr.	Final Report
M. Florine Neggers	Final Report
Alice Peden	Final Report
Michael Reardon	Final Report
James Shea	Final Report
Lorraine Zatyrka	Final Report

Skate Park Committee

Guy Savoie – Associate Mbr (appt 6/30/03)	6/30/04
Jason Chagnon (appt 8/11/03)	6/30/06
Christine Shaw (appt 8/11/03)	6/30/06
Debra Grudgen (appt 7/22/03)	6/30/05
Robin Marion	6/30/04
Steven Syriac	6/30/05
Amy D'Amours	6/30/03
Ann Phelps	6/30/03
Lynn Sikes	6/30/03

Sexual Harassment Grievance Officer

Gary L. Brougham
MaryJane Lemire, Alternate (appt 1/27/03)

Overseer of Willard Stebbins Account

Michael J. Reardon
Suzanne Bay
James Chevalier

Superintendent of Insect Pest Control

Steven J. Williams	6/30/04

* * *

Name	Office	Term Expires

Telecommunications Advisory Committee

Arthur L. Dunbar	6/30/04
W. Daniel Fitzpatrick (resigned 10/8/03)	6/30/04
James P. Kearney	6/30/04
Frank Lomanno	6/30/04
Andrew J. Katafiasz	6/30/04
Lew Louraine (appt 12/22/03)	6/30/04
James Burke (appt 12/22/03)	6/30/04
Christopher deHahn (appt 12/22/03)	6/30/04
Nick O'Connor (appt 12/22/03)	6/30/04

Assistant Town Clerk

Colleen K. Toothill-Berte	6/30/04

Treasurer-Collector

Lisa M. Banner	6/30/04

Assistant Treasurer/Collector

Lisa M. Banner	6/30/03
Jane Wolfe	6/30/04

Deputy Collectors

Arthur C. Jones (appt 1/6/03)	12/2003

Town Counsel

Attorney Leonard Kopelman, Kopelman and Paige	6/30/04

Veterans Graves Officer

Vincent Viglione	3/31/04

Assistant Veterans Graves Officer

Kathleen Wood	3/21/04

Name	Office	Term Expires

Veterans Services Agent

Robert C. Messier	6/30/04

Veterans Burial Agent

Robert C. Messier	

War Memorial Committee

Francis A. Dudek	6/30/04
Peter G. Thorpe (resigned 1/03)	6/30/05
Janet M Jourdain (appt 4/7/03)	6/30/05
Edward T. Knight	6/30/06
F. Thomas Keefe	6/30/06
Leo Beauchemin	6/30/06
Peter G. Thorpe	6/30/05
Susan Gay, Associate Member	6/30/04
Kelly Slate, Associate Member	6/30/04

Zoning Board of Appeals

Richard G. Barry	6/30/04
Diane Loftus Mas	6/30/06
Raymond G. Goff	6/30/05

Associate Members - Board of Appeals

Gregory A. Galanek	6/30/04
Kevin LaCroix	6/30/03
Patricia M. LaFore	6/30/04

Zoning Enforcement Officer

Paul Adzima	6/30/04

BELCHERTOWN · MASSACHUSETTS
FOUNDED 1731 · INCORPORATED 1761

Board of Selectmen

Front (left to right): Michael Reardon, Linda Barron, and Gerald Grasso. Rear (left to right): Steven Rose, Ronald Aponte

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Although the May 2003 Annual Town Election produced a four-way race for the Board of Selectmen, voters decisively returned the incumbents to office: Linda Barron to her sixth term, and Gerald Grasso to his third term. During its annual post-election reorganization, the Board members named Barron as Chairman, Grasso as Vice Chairman, and Steven Rose as Clerk. Along with continuing Selectmen Michael Reardon and Ronald Aponte, the Liaisons were assigned as follows: General Government, Aponte; Public Safety, Barron; Public Works, Rose; Education, Grasso; and Human Services, Recreation and Environmental, Reardon.

Fiscal Issues: The 3 "Cs" and "9C"

It will come as no surprise to anyone who follows government -- whether state or local -- that the overarching theme of 2003 centered around fiscal matters, notably the three "Cs" of fiscal crises, fiscal challenges, and fiscal constraints. In February, well into the fiscal year, the Town was hit with the Governor's "9C cuts" to local aid. In consultation with the Finance Committee, this unprecedented mid-year reduction in local aid was assigned to Town budgets and departments proportional to their allocation of the total town budget (excluding fixed costs and debt service), with the School Department taking by far the largest reduction. Budgets that were already extremely lean were pared even further; nevertheless, through prudent management and careful oversight, all town departments met this challenge and concluded the FY03 fiscal year within their constrained resources.

Economic Development

The Selectmen undertook many avenues to encourage economic development. For the first time in Belchertown, the Board negotiated Tax Incremental Financing agreements, known as TIFs, with two local businesses. These TIFs were subsequently approved by the voters at the Annual Town Meeting and will allow these businesses to expand while also generating increased employment opportunities for our residents over the next several years.

As part of an economic stimulus bill, the Legislature recently amended the state law to permit the sale of alcoholic beverages by package stores seven days a week, subject to local approval. The Board, upon receipt of requests from license holders, voted to allow these Sunday openings.

A stroll or drive through town reveals considerable new or expanded business activity. From treating wood to dancing footloose, from saying it with flowers to bedecking with jewelry, from a soothing spa treatment to dining out, several businesses have renovated or expanded and now offer even more goods or services. And if it is true that a community's vitality can be measured by the number of banks it attracts, then Belchertown -- with no fewer than eight different banks already here or under construction -- is definitely vibrant!

Building Strong Community

The Selectmen continue to have an excellent relationship with the School Committee and Department, all of us realizing that it is in everyone's best interest to work together to meet the challenge of providing a first-rate education for our children in spite of these difficult financial times. At the December Special Town Meeting, the voters were responsive to our joint recommendation, made after much scrutiny and scaling down of costs, to borrow funds in order to go forward this year with the repairs and renovations necessary to convert the former high school into the Jabish Brook Middle School, now slated to open in the fall of 2004.

Additionally, the voters approved a $300,000 capital expenditure for much-needed Highway Department equipment and improvements, a new roof for our venerable Lawrence Memorial Hall, and a brush truck cab and chassis for the Fire Department.

Throughout 2003 the Selectmen oversaw the planning effort for development of a Town Center Plan. Drawing up this Plan was one of the priority implementation steps of the *2002 Community Plan*. We convened a series of working sessions to identify areas of common agreement and specific steps to move the community forward toward achieving shared objectives. In October we hosted a community-wide workshop to review and confirm areas of agreement, and to recommend priorities for action. The 2003 Town Center Plan report was issued in December 2003 and may be viewed at the Selectmen's Office.

In the absence of sufficient Town budget funds, the Selectmen sponsor ongoing efforts targeted to preserve and enhance some of the treasured features of our historic Town Common. Working with the War Memorial Committee and volunteer fundraiser Gloria Fortunato, our office coordinates efforts to cover the costs of rehabilitating the leaning Civil War soldier. The goal of $32,000 to "Straighten Out Sam" is about one-third raised.

Meanwhile, Ann Pittsley in the Selectmen's Office initiated a drive for funds to replace several stately old trees that over time succumbed to age and disease.

Photo credit: Debbie Strauss, The Sentinel

Ruthella Tucker (second right) stands on the Town Common with DPW Director Steven Williams (right) and Town Administrator Gary Brougham (second left) in front of the maple trees she donated in memory of her family. They are joined by Ann Pittsley (left), Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator. Ms. Pittsley initiated the tree donation program as a means of replacing trees that had been lost to damage and decay.

Additionally, we encourage donations to a fund earmarked for the purchase of replacement U.S. flags for year-round display around the Center of town. Townspeople, as well as former residents and visitors who spontaneously praise our beautiful Common, have responded very generously to all these causes. Details about any of these efforts, including naming opportunities for new trees, can be obtained at the Selectmen's Office in the Finnerty House.

Taxes

In government, there is no escaping the subject of taxes, especially property taxes. They are a reality that we all must deal with. As homeowners, the Selectmen feel the impact of taxes just as other property owners do. We are keenly aware of the need to keep the tax rate under control, while still providing services. In the first year under Proposition 2-1/2 (Fiscal Year 1982), the tax rate was $18.70. It fluctuated over the next two decades, with a high mark of $19.62 in FY84. Since a recent high point of $18.98 in FY01, the rate has steadily declined to $16.70 for FY04. However, market forces have driven home values up substantially, resulting in rising valuations. Thus, the tax bill for an "average" home has risen disproportionate to other economic factors over time. Be assured that the potential impact on the tax rate is consistently a major consideration in the Selectmen's decision-making process.

In an effort to provide a tool for municipalities to more readily collect back taxes without the delay and expense of going to court, last year the Legislature enacted a temporary tax amnesty program, subject to local acceptance. Based on the recommendation of Treasurer-Collector Lisa Banner, the Selectmen brought this opportunity to the Special Town Meeting in December, where it was approved by the voters. Under this program, available for only a short window of time in April and May 2004, the outstanding taxes must be paid in full, however there is a 50% reduction in the accrued interest charges. This is a **one-time only** program that may generate up to $200,000 in tax receipts.

Infrastructure

Construction on the Tri-Lakes Sewer project moved steadily forward throughout 2003 until closed down by winter weather conditions. Installation is approximately 70% complete, with an expectation that service will be available by late spring 2004. This expansion will provide service for about 315 homes and businesses within the Tri-Lakes area. Financed through a no-interest loan from the Water Pollution Abatement Trust, the costs will be recovered from those served by the expansion, based on a uniform unit method of assessment.

Hampered by reduced Chapter 90 funds from the state, the Department of Public Works nevertheless completed upgrades and performed maintenance on several town ways. There is always a list of roads needing work, and keeping our roads in good condition safe for travel is an ever-present priority for the DPW, despite diminished staff and funding.

Under the Executive Order 418 Program the Town was required to perform a water budget analysis for the purpose of determining long-term implications for water demand vs. recharge of underground water supplies. Conducted by an independent consultant, this study determined that our water supply is ample, even for theoretical maximum projected build out conditions.

Preliminary discussion has been initiated relative to the upcoming renewal of the Town's contract with Charter Communications for cable television services. In order to be competitive when seeking to attract new businesses, it is imperative that the Town be able to offer 21st century telecommunication services and technology. The Telecommunications Advisory Committee (TAC) has been expanded with the addition of residents who are experienced with technology and knowledgeable about the cable industry. We are confident that the TAC will successfully negotiate an optimum contract for our community.

Transitions

The beginning of 2003 saw three new department heads taking the helm: Police Chief Francis Fox, Jr., Town Accountant Jill Besancon, and Town Treasurer-Collector Lisa Banner. Their appointments opened up the opportunity for other in-house promotions, along with some restructuring of procedures and positions. Chief Fox assembled his command staff with the promotion of Sergeant James Jackson, Jr., to Lieutenant, and the promotion of Officers Bruce Jenks, David Conkey, and Kevin Pacunas to the rank of Sergeant. In the financial departments, Jane Wolfe was appointed as Assistant Treasurer-Collector, and Kimberly O'Grady was named as Assistant Town Accountant. To fill the vacancy created by a resignation, Robert Cole was promoted to the position of Highway Division Supervisor in the Department of Public Works.

A second round of the Early Retirement Incentive Program resulted in another group of retirements in December 2003, including Lorraine Zatyrka, after 17 years of dedicated service at the Senior Center, as well as several longtime employees of the School Department. Their exemplary service to our seniors and to our youth will be long remembered, and they will all be missed!

Photo credit: Beverly Ducharme

Lorraine Zatyrka (seated) was honored at a retirement reception in December. Selectman Michael Reardon (right) and Town Administrator Gary Brougham (second left) joined Selectmen Chairman Linda Barron in making a presentation on behalf of the Town.

In Memoriam

This past year we inevitably experienced the passing of friends and neighbors, each of them having contributed something special to our community. Starting with this Annual Town Report, we are introducing a new feature. Included in the introductory section, you will find an *In Memoriam* page that lists all those whose deaths were recorded in Belchertown during 2003. In this way, we seek to remember and honor those who have been a part of our community and our lives.

Recognition and Appreciation

Our success as a desirable community is in part attributable to the exceptional contributions of many people and organizations - employees, volunteers, elected and appointed officials, coaches, civic groups, churches, food pantries, business sponsors, and the list could go on. Although we cannot name everyone individually, we do acknowledge and heartily thank them collectively for all they do to enhance our Town.

This has been a very trying year both for those who depend on government services and those who provide them. We want to especially note the remarkable efforts of our Town employees. In a time of increased demands and decreased resources, they have continued to provide outstanding service - often times unsung to the public, but noticed and appreciated by the Selectmen. In particular, we thank three individuals whose extraordinary dedication, competence, and professionalism make it possible for us to carry out our vast and varied Selectmen responsibilities. To our office staff of Ann Pittsley and Audrey LePage, and Town Administrator Gary Brougham - many kudos!

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Barron, Chairman
Board of Selectmen

Gary Brougham, Town Administrator

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town Administrator's office, in conjunction with the Selectmen's Office, is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Town. Located in the Finnerty House at One South Main Street, these combined offices plan, direct, manage and execute a variety of programs, policies and procedures developed by the Board of Selectmen and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. These policies, procedures and programs are constantly undergoing change to ensure appropriate application. In addition, we are the onsite recipients of all correspondence and/or complaints directed to the Selectmen either individually or as a Board. Although this task becomes more complex each year, we strive to acknowledge each and every issue in a sincere and professional manner. Your comments are always welcome in this regard.

As the third year of this new millennium comes to a close, I am perhaps selfishly proud of our Town's progress and cautiously optimistic toward our future. The name Belchertown delineates a Town or destination. Its residents, however, represent a community; a community working together to provide an excellent school system, quality Town services, municipal infrastructure, manageable growth and a sustainable budget. In my opinion, we are solidly in the range of desirability in most of these areas. Belchertown's student athletes and musicians are well known for their competitive award winning skills, and our school system is widely recognized for academic achievement and outstanding programs.

The Town of Belchertown offers quality services utilizing a combination of full-time, part-time, on call and volunteer staff. We are very fortunate in this regard considering the vast needs of the community and the diverse roles many of our employees, officials and/or volunteers provide.

Infrastructure is without a doubt a key component of a progressive community. I can think of no other similar community in the area that has invested so generously in its infrastructure in recent years as Belchertown. With the benefit of a new Fire Station, Police Station, Senior Center, Water Reclamation Facility, High School, Elementary School, expanded water and sewer service area and attractive real estate values, our community is a very desirable destination.

As municipal leaders, we recognize the need for additional business development within our community; consequently, we have worked very closely with several existing and several new business owners recently in an effort to provide that offset. At the Annual Town Meeting in May of 2003, we presented two tax incremental financing (TIF) packages for two existing Belchertown business owners who have decided to expand their operations in Belchertown. TIFs are a partnering of municipality and business to eligible businesses that pledge investments and employment in exchange for specified relief, most typically tax relief. Although this was our maiden voyage in this area, both proposals passed at Annual Town Meeting overwhelmingly. We will continue to take advantage of this and other resources while attempting to expand Belchertown's business base in the future.

How well we know the benefit of business vs. residential tax dollars when attempting to balance our local budget. In recent years, this annual process has become increasingly more difficult as a result of diminishing State revenues and increased local needs. Relief from unfunded State/Federal programs, increased local revenues other than residential taxes or any combination is an absolute must.

In spite of this, I maintain Belchertown is a very desirable community. With ample open space, countless community attractions (i.e. the Belchertown Community Band concerts, Belchertown Fair, Quabbin Reservoir, the Stone House Museum, Clapp Memorial Library, craft fairs on the Common, conservation areas, farmers market, etc.), Belchertown is a destination for its visitors and a special place we call home. On behalf of the entire Town administration, I would like to sincerely thank each and every one who makes this opportunity possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary L. Brougham
Town Administrator

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is comprised of five non-compensated members who are appointed by the Town Moderator. No member may hold any other elected or appointed Town position during his or her term. The Board of Selectmen, other Town officers or other boards do not govern the Committee.

The two primary functions of the Committee are to:

- Serve as an advisory body to Town Meeting regarding fiscal matters, and

- Administer the Town's Reserve Fund

In its advisory capacity, the Committee reviews budget requests for each Town department, makes recommendations and presents the Town budget to Annual Town Meeting. The Committee also reviews Warrant Articles that have a financial impact to the Town and makes recommendations on these items at Annual or Special Town Meetings.

The Reserve Fund is the Town's emergency fund. It is utilized to fund unforeseen non-budgeted expenses that are time sensitive and cannot be postponed until Town Meeting.

For Fiscal Year 2004 (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004) the Town's budgeted operating expenses have increased by approximately $845,000 (2.6%) as compared to Fiscal Year 2003 appropriations. The majority of additional operating expenses are attributable to increases in Belchertown School District and Pathfinder ($672,000), increases in pension and health insurance costs ($157,000). Operating cost for the remaining Town departments grew marginally ($119,000) primarily due to increases in salaries and wages.

Due to the budget constraints at both the state and town level, spending for the foreseeable future must be limited to "necessary priorities" for the Town of Belchertown.

The Stabilization Fund was decreased from approximately $990,000 to approximately $642,000 in December 2003. The decrease in the Stabilization Fund was primarily due to a change in anticipated State funding for the Belchertown School District's special education funds and the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School assessment. Unfortunately, the ability to maintain the Stabilization Fund at the current level is unlikely due to the current financial difficulties at the state level.

The Finance Committee is committed to act responsibly and examine each request made in the Department budgets, which comprise the overall operating budget for the Town. We are also committed to advising the Town Meeting on any capital appropriation in a manner that has reviewed factors including cost efficiency, cost savings and increased service, which will benefit the residents of Belchertown. We are in a position of working collaboratively with the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee during the annual budget process and as needs arise during the fiscal year with the common goal of providing quality services and maintaining prudent financial decision-making. It is with these things in mind that the Finance Committee exercises its responsibility to advise Town Meeting on matters which impact the amount of tax dollars paid by the residents and homeowners of Belchertown.

Respectfully submitted,

Finance Committee
Paul Silva, Chairman
David Reed, Vice-Chairman
Daniel Kloss, Clerk
Themis Tsoumas
Vacant Seat

ENTERING
EST. 1733
BELCHERTOWN

Photo credit: Jane Crutchfield

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Combined Balance Sheet
All Types, Funds, and Account Groups
for the Period Ended June 30, 2003

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Sewer Enterprise	Landfill Enterprise	Fiduciary Trust Funds	Long Term Debt	Totals (Memo Only)
ASSETS								
Cash	2,108,354.49	1,696,297.92	1,214,834.53	219,612.21	178,463.31	2,054,416.76		7,471,979.22
Petty Cash Advance		6,576.00						6,576.00
Accounts Receivable:								
Property Taxes	498,293.43							498,293.43
Property Taxes of 2004	7,001,248.55							7,001,248.55
Excise Taxes	211,374.18							211,374.18
Tax Liens	1,163,818.95			8,995.37				1,172,814.32
Special Assessments	207,953.17							207,953.17
Departmental	219,496.86			159,278.91				378,775.77
Less Allow. for Uncollectible	(325,738.05)							(325,738.05)
Tax Foreclosures	20,238.71							20,238.71
Lieu Taxes	17,040.25							17,040.25
Due From Other Governments		176,972.36	1,453,286.86					1,630,259.22
Amt. To be Provided-Notes Payable			2,567,000.00					2,567,000.00
Amt. To be Provided-Pmt of Debt							48,389,246.00	48,389,246.00
Amt. To be Prov.-Compensated Absences							181,776.62	181,776.62
Total Assets	11,122,080.54	1,879,846.28	5,235,121.39	387,886.49	178,463.31	2,054,416.76	48,571,022.62	69,428,837.39
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY								
Liabilities:								
Warrants Payable	604,592.90	114,647.19		20,101.68	5,962.90	700.00		746,004.67
Employee Withholdings	421,275.08	1,800.00						423,075.08

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Combined Balance Sheet
All Types, Funds, and Account Groups
for the Period Ended June 30, 2003

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Sewer Enterprise	Landfill Enterprise	Fiduciary Trust Funds	Long Term Debt	Totals (Memo Only)
Deferred Revenue:								
Property Taxes	7,108,803.93							7,108,803.93
Excise Taxes	211,374.18							211,374.18
Tax Liens	1,163,818.95			8,995.37				1,172,814.32
Special Assessments	207,953.17							207,953.17
Lieu Taxes	17,040.25							17,040.25
Departmental	219,496.86			159,278.91				378,775.77
Tax Foreclosures	20,238.71							20,238.71
Government Receivable		176,972.36	1,388,672.86					1,565,645.22
Grant Receivable			64,614.00					64,614.00
Grant Anticipation Notes Payable								0.00
Bond Anticipation Notes Payable			2,567,000.00					2,567,000.00
2 Unclaimed Checks	10,801.04							10,801.04
1 Bond Indebtedness							48,389,246.00	48,389,246.00
Compensated Absences							181,776.62	181,776.62
Total Liabilities	9,985,395.07	293,419.55	4,020,286.86	188,375.96	5,962.90	700.00	48,571,022.62	63,065,162.96
Fund Equity:								
Reserve for Encumbrances	164,860.93							164,860.93
Reserve for Expenditures				142,778.00	49,648.00			192,426.00
Fund Bal. Designated for Over/Under								0.00
Unreserved Fund Balance	971,824.54							971,824.54
Reserved Fund Balance		1,549,786.91	1,214,834.53	56,732.53	122,852.41	2,053,716.76		4,997,923.14
Title V Septic System Loan		36,639.82						36,639.82
Total Fund Equity	1,136,685.47	1,586,426.73	1,214,834.53	199,510.53	172,500.41	2,053,716.76	0.00	6,363,674.43
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	11,122,080.54	1,879,846.28	5,235,121.39	387,886.49	178,463.31	2,054,416.76	48,571,022.62	69,428,837.39

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
General Fund
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

ASSETS		
Cash		2,108,354.49
Petty Cash Advance		0.00
Accounts Receivable:		
Property Taxes	498,293.43	
Property Taxes of 2004	7,001,248.55	
Excise Taxes	211,374.18	
Tax Liens	1,163,818.95	
Special Assessments	207,953.17	
Lieu Taxes	17,040.25	
Departmental	219,496.86	
Less Allowance for Uncollectible	(325,738.05)	
		8,993,487.34
Due from Other Governments		0.00
Tax Foreclosure		20,238.71
Total Assets		11,122,080.54
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY		
Liabilities:		
Warrants Payable		604,592.90
Employee Withholdings		421,275.08
Deferred Revenue:		
Property Taxes	7,108,803.93	
Excise Taxes	211,374.18	
Tax Liens	1,163,818.95	
Special Assessments	207,953.17	
Lieu Taxes	17,040.25	
Departmental	219,496.86	
Tax Foreclosures	20,238.71	
		8,948,726.05
Unclaimed Checks		10,801.04
Total Liabilities		9,985,395.07
FUND EQUITY		
Reserve for Expenditures		0.00
Reserve for Encumbrances		164,860.93
Fund Balance Designated for Over/Under		0.00
Unreserved Fund Balance		971,824.54
Total Fund Equity		1,136,685.47
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity		11,122,080.54

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Special Revenue - Combining Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

	Highways	GRANTS Federal	 State	School Lunch	School Revolvings	Departmental	Agency Funds	Totals (Memo Only)
ASSETS								
Cash	(30,306.75)	77,601.23	554,096.27	62,217.86	146,668.55	674,430.85	211,589.91	1,696,297.92
Petty Cash Advance						6,576.00		6,576.00
Due From Commonwealth	69,405.31		41,565.00					110,970.31
Amount to be Provided-Notes Payable								0.00
Due from Federal Government		66,002.05						66,002.05
Total Assets	39,098.56	143,603.28	595,661.27	62,217.86	146,668.55	681,006.85	211,589.91	1,879,846.28
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY								
Liabilities:								
Warrants Payable		31,227.43	6,739.55	5,603.53	18,530.11	50,335.59	2,210.98	114,647.19
Deferred Revenue - Gov't Receivable	69,405.31	66,002.05	41,565.00					176,972.36
Employee Withholdings							1,800.00	1,800.00
Grant Anticipation Note								0.00
Deferred Revenue - Grant Receivable								0.00
Total Liabilities	69,405.31	97,229.48	48,304.55	5,603.53	18,530.11	50,335.59	4,010.98	293,419.55
Fund Equity:								
Desig. for Subsequent Years Expense	(30,306.75)	46,373.80	547,356.72	56,614.33	128,138.44	594,031.44	207,578.93	1,549,786.91
Title V Septic System Loan						36,639.82		36,639.82
Total Fund Equity	(30,306.75)	46,373.80	547,356.72	56,614.33	128,138.44	630,671.26	207,578.93	1,586,426.73
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	39,098.56	143,603.28	595,661.27	62,217.86	146,668.55	681,006.85	211,589.91	1,879,846.28

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Capital Projects Fund
Combined Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

	High School	Health Title V	Police Station Sr. Center	Fire Station	WWTP Upgrade PVP/Tri-Lakes	Health Grant	Totals (Memo. Only)
ASSETS							
Cash	682,915.03	0.00	25,750.91	822.94	492,622.35	12,723.30	1,214,834.53
WPAT Receivable		0.00			1,388,672.86		1,388,672.86
U.S.D.A. Grant Receivable					64,614.00		64,614.00
Amt. To be Prov. For Notes Pay.		0.00			2,567,000.00		2,567,000.00
Total Assets	682,915.03	0.00	25,750.91	822.94	4,512,909.21	12,723.30	5,235,121.39
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY							
Liabilities:							
Warrants Payable							0.00
Deferred Rev.-WPAT Rec'ble					1,388,672.86		1,388,672.86
Deferred Rev.-USDA Grant					64,614.00		64,614.00
Bond Anticipation Note					2,567,000.00		2,567,000.00
Grant Anticipation Note Payabl					0.00		0.00
Total Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,020,286.86	0.00	4,020,286.86
Fund Equity:							
Reserved Fund Balance	682,915.03	0.00	25,750.91	822.94	492,622.35	12,723.30	1,214,834.53
Total Fund Equity	682,915.03	0.00	25,750.91	822.94	492,622.35	12,723.30	1,214,834.53
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	682,915.03	0.00	25,750.91	822.94	4,512,909.21	12,723.30	5,235,121.39

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Sewer Enterprise Fund
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

ASSETS		
Cash		219,612.21
Accounts Receivable:		
Sewer Liens Added to Taxes	4,442.69	
Sewer User Fees	153,836.22	
Departmental-Connections	1,000.00	
Due from Tax Liens - Sewer	8,995.37	
		168,274.28
Total Assets		387,886.49
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY		
Liabilities:		
Warrants Payable		20,101.68
Deferred Revenue:		
Sewer Liens	4,442.69	
Sewer User Fees	153,836.22	
Departmental-Connections	1,000.00	
Tax Liens - Sewer	8,995.37	
		168,274.28
Total Liabilities		188,375.96
Fund Equity:		
Reserved for Expenditure		142,778.00
Retained Earnings		56,732.53
Total Fund Equity		199,510.53
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity		387,886.49

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Landfill Enterprise Fund
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

ASSETS	
Cash	178,463.31
Total Assets	178,463.31
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY	
Liabilities:	
Warrants Payable	5,962.90
Total Liabilities	5,962.90
Fund Equity:	
Reserve for Expenditures	49,648.00
Retained Earnings	122,852.41
Total Fund Equity	172,500.41
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	178,463.31

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Expendable Trust Funds
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

ASSETS	
Cash	1,314,859.82
Total Assets	1,314,859.82
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY	
Liabilities:	
Warrants Payable	700.00
Total Liabilities	700.00
Fund Equity:	
Fund Balances:	
Reserved	1,314,159.82
Total Fund Equity	1,314,159.82
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	1,314,859.82

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Non-Expendable Trust Fund
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

ASSETS	
Cash	739,556.94
Total Assets	739,556.94
LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY	
Fund Balances:	
Reserved	739,556.94
Total Fund Balance	739,556.94
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	739,556.94

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Long Term Debt Group
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2003

	SPED Loan of 2001	High School 2001	Daigle Well Loan	School Construction Loan-'92	Elementary School Loan '96	Sewer G. Hannum MWPAT	WWTP Upgrade/Exp MWPAT	Sewer Stadler St. MWPAT	Sewer Springfield Rd MWPAT	Sewer Pine Valley MWPAT	FmHA USDA Pine Valley Springfield Rd	Septic Loan MWPAT	Sr. Center Loan	Unfunded Vacation Leave	Unfunded Sick Leave	Totals (Memo. Only)
ASSETS																
Amt to be Provided for Pmt of Debt	96,000.00	30,730,000.00	340,000.00	410,000.00	6,475,000.00	10,568.00	7,154,800.00	449,696.00	535,571.00	1,133,511.00	154,100.00	75,000.00	825,000.00			48,389,246.00
Amt to be Provided for Comp. Absence														11,684.80	170,091.82	181,776.62
Total Assets	96,000.00	30,730,000.00	340,000.00	410,000.00	6,475,000.00	10,568.00	7,154,800.00	449,696.00	535,571.00	1,133,511.00	154,100.00	75,000.00	825,000.00	11,684.80	170,091.82	48,571,022.62
LIABILITIES																
Bond Indebtedness	96,000.00	30,730,000.00	340,000.00	410,000.00	6,475,000.00	10,568.00	7,154,800.00	449,696.00	535,571.00	1,133,511.00	154,100.00	75,000.00	825,000.00			48,389,246.00
Compensated Absences														11,684.80	170,091.82	181,776.62
Total Liabilities	96,000.00	30,730,000.00	340,000.00	410,000.00	6,475,000.00	10,568.00	7,154,800.00	449,696.00	535,571.00	1,133,511.00	154,100.00	75,000.00	825,000.00	11,684.80	170,091.82	48,571,022.62

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2003

	GENERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS			ENTERPRISE FUNDS		FIDUCIARY TYPE	TOTALS
	General Fund	Special Rev.	Capital Funds	Sewer	Landfill	Expendable Trusts	(Memo. Only)
Revenue:							
Taxes	13,719,377.11						13,719,377.11
State Receipts	13,231,176.77						13,231,176.77
Excise Taxes	1,340,946.50						1,340,946.50
Tax Liens	266,822.78						266,822.78
Lieu Taxes	174,210.44						174,210.44
Licenses & Permits	171,639.49						171,639.49
Special Assessments	37,243.95						37,243.95
Interest	423,514.41	1,722.98		1,758.08		32,538.70	459,534.17
Fines & Forfeits	63,390.00						63,390.00
Departmental Revenue	442,003.80	1,905,984.49		521,842.98	206,662.70	861.31	3,077,355.28
Fees	88,609.95						88,609.95
Rentals	57,174.14						57,174.14
Umass Transit	30,769.00						30,769.00
Other Miscellaneous	46,856.22	314,777.29					361,633.51
Grants		1,577,299.81					1,577,299.81
Performance Guarantees		1,500.00					1,500.00
Gifts		89,266.84					89,266.84
Temporary Loans			1,136,400.00				1,136,400.00
MWPAT			611,327.14				611,327.14
USDA Grant			350,686.00				350,686.00
USDA Loan			154,100.00				154,100.00
Bond Proceeds							0.00
Total Revenues	30,093,734.56	3,890,551.41	2,252,513.14	523,601.06	206,662.70	33,400.01	37,000,462.88
Expenditures:							
General Government	1,200,945.60	53,345.33				650.00	1,254,940.93
Protection of Persons & Property	1,964,226.08	232,338.63					2,196,564.71
Education	18,339,135.35	2,037,234.75					20,376,370.10
Public Works	1,471,771.84	343,484.63		450,676.82	231,631.14	8,617.50	2,506,181.93
Human Services	441,938.68	191,962.93				19,508.94	653,410.55
Culture & Recreation	507,348.47	249,563.19					756,911.66

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2003

	GENERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS			ENTERPRISE FUNDS		FIDUCIARY TYPE	TOTALS
	General Fund	Special Rev.	Capital Funds	Sewer	Landfill	Expendable Trusts	(Memo. Only)
Expenditures (continued):							
Insurance & Unclassified	1,750,176.90						1,750,176.90
Debt & Interest	4,636,187.26	207,400.00		444,509.08			5,288,096.34
State Assessments	405,720.00						405,720.00
Prior Year Expenditures	103,864.92						103,864.92
Land Purchase							0.00
Construction			2,753,932.69				2,753,932.69
Equipment			1,748,297.89				1,748,297.89
Return of Unexpended Funds			3,583.00				3,583.00
Temporary Loan			1,705,800.00				1,705,800.00
Total Expenditures	30,821,315.10	3,315,329.46	6,211,613.58	895,185.90	231,631.14	28,776.44	41,503,851.62
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(727,580.54)	575,221.95	(3,959,100.44)	(371,584.84)	(24,968.44)	4,623.57	(4,503,388.74)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):							
Operating Transfers In	734,443.00	168,460.00	0.00	425,023.00	19,000.00	722,000.00	2,068,926.00
Operating Transfers Out	1,334,483.00	403,443.00	0.00	131,000.00	0.00	200,000.00	2,068,926.00
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	(600,040.00)	(234,983.00)	0.00	294,023.00	19,000.00	522,000.00	0.00
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Fin. Uses	(1,327,620.54)	340,238.95	(3,959,100.44)	(77,561.84)	(5,968.44)	526,623.57	(4,503,388.74)
Audit Adjustment	(166.23)						
Fund Balance 7-1-02	2,464,472.24	1,241,411.78	5,173,934.97	277,072.37	178,468.85	787,536.25	10,122,896.46
Fund Balance 6-30-03	1,136,685.47	1,581,650.73	1,214,834.53	199,510.53	172,500.41	1,314,159.82	5,619,507.72

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
General Fund
Statement of Revenue, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2003

	Budget	Transfers	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:				
Taxes	13,657,984.55		13,719,377.11	61,392.56
State Receipts	13,375,590.00		13,231,176.77	(144,413.23)
Excise Taxes	1,201,500.00		1,340,946.50	139,446.50
Tax Liens	0.00		266,822.78	266,822.78
Lieu Taxes	170,000.00		174,210.44	4,210.44
Licenses & Permits	175,000.00		171,639.49	(3,360.51)
Special Assessments	20,000.00		37,243.95	17,243.95
Interest	320,000.00		423,514.41	103,514.41
Fines & Forfeits	50,000.00		63,390.00	13,390.00
Departmental Revenue	505,000.00		442,003.80	(62,996.20)
Fees	20,000.00		88,609.95	68,609.95
Rentals	60,000.00		57,174.14	(2,825.86)
Umass Transit	25,000.00		30,769.00	5,769.00
Other (Misc.+ MEMA)	0.00		46,856.22	46,856.22
Total Revenues	29,580,074.55	0.00	30,093,734.56	513,660.01
Expenditures:				
General Government	1,266,577.20	(24,698.00)	1,200,945.60	40,933.60
Protection of Persons & Property	2,005,172.00	10,350.00	1,964,226.08	51,295.92
Education	18,426,788.00	3,089.00	18,339,135.35	90,741.65
Public Works	1,501,365.00	1,519.00	1,471,771.84	31,112.16
Human Services	462,183.35	5,025.00	441,938.68	25,269.67
Culture & Recreation	511,465.00	1,222.00	507,348.47	5,338.53
Insurance & Unclassified	1,850,467.00	2,063.00	1,750,176.90	102,353.10
Debt & Interest	4,645,297.00		4,636,187.26	9,109.74
State Assessments	115,067.00		405,720.00	(290,653.00)
Prior Year Expenditures	172,843.74		103,864.92	68,978.82
Total Expenditures	30,957,225.29	(1,430.00)	30,821,315.10	134,480.19
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures			(727,580.54)	
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Operating Transfers In	734,443.00	0.00	734,443.00	
Operating Transfers Out	1,448,120.00	0.00	1,334,483.00	
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	(713,677.00)	0.00	(600,040.00)	
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Financing Uses			(1,327,620.54)	
Audit Adjustment			(166.23)	
Fund Balance 7/1/02			2,464,472.24	
Fund Balance 6/30/03			1,136,685.47	

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2003

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY04
Moderator	$25.00		$25.00	$0.00	
Selectmen	$20,820.00		$18,844.52	$1,975.48	
Town Administrator	$150,673.00		$150,479.02	$193.98	
Cable Access TV Operations	$1,543.00		$1,543.00	$0.00	
Finance Committee	$525.00		$170.00	$355.00	
Reserve Fund	$30,000.00	($30,000.00)	$0.00	$0.00	
Town Accountant	$134,109.00	$2,185.00	$132,674.74	$3,619.26	$3,500.00
MIS Director	$186,101.00		$182,434.67	$3,666.33	$1,500.00
Assessors	$225,292.00		$215,593.52	$9,698.48	$900.00
Treasurer/Collector	$191,835.00	$3,117.00	$194,929.72	$22.28	
Law Account	$80,925.00		$75,312.38	$5,612.62	
Town Clerk	$71,997.00		$64,772.03	$7,224.97	$120.00
Election & Registration	$23,225.00		$22,196.24	$1,028.76	
Conservation Commission	$57,100.00		$54,507.22	$2,592.78	$2,000.00
Pioneer Valley Planning	$1,945.20		$1,945.20	$0.00	
Planning Board	$80,812.00		$77,263.24	$3,548.76	
Zoning Board of Appeals	$2,981.00		$2,605.32	$375.68	
EDIC	$2,488.00		$2,271.07	$216.93	
Mobile Home Rent Control	$199.00		$0.00	$199.00	
Printing Town Report	$3,982.00		$3,378.71	$603.29	
	$1,266,577.20	($24,698.00)	$1,200,945.60	$40,933.60	$8,020.00

PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY04
Police Department	$1,299,936.00		$1,278,954.60	$20,981.40	
Fire Department	$235,298.00		$232,085.89	$3,212.11	
Hydrant Service	$20,515.00		$20,514.40	$0.60	
EMS	$304,030.00	$9,000.00	$313,024.05	$5.95	
njured on Duty	$10,000.00		$4,509.72	$5,490.28	
nspection Services	$115,519.00		$95,562.22	$19,956.78	
Civil Defense	$1,513.00		$1,504.42	$8.58	
Dog Officer	$18,361.00	$1,350.00	$18,070.78	$1,640.22	
	$2,005,172.00	$10,350.00	$1,964,226.08	$51,295.92	$0.00

DUCATION	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY04
own Schools	$17,532,962.00	$3,089.00	$17,445,309.35	$90,741.65	$87,560.27
egional School	$893,826.00		$893,826.00	$0.00	
	$18,426,788.00	$3,089.00	$18,339,135.35	$90,741.65	$87,560.27

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2003

	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY04
PUBLIC WORKS					
Personal Services	$490,190.00		$487,326.38	$2,863.62	
Professional Engineering	$5,500.00		$5,398.78	$101.22	
Administration	$4,175.00		$4,140.81	$34.19	
Snow & Ice Control	$268,891.00	$45,134.84	$261,349.40	$52,676.44	
Street Lighting	$28,000.00		$26,089.15	$1,910.85	
Road Machinery	$62,200.00	$244.00	$62,416.56	$27.44	
Streets/Construction/Maint.	$67,300.00		$67,241.60	$58.40	
Town Garage	$14,590.00		$14,572.87	$17.13	
Hired Services	$50,828.00		$50,691.80	$136.20	
Maintenance/Grounds	$303,075.00		$293,869.98	$9,205.02	
Lawrence Memorial Hall	$32,590.00	$1,275.00	$33,860.26	$4.74	
Finnerty House	$4,650.00		$4,632.92	$17.08	
EMS Building	$8,450.00		$8,309.13	$140.87	
Police Station	$33,680.00		$33,669.17	$10.83	
Senior Center Building	$31,338.00		$31,253.15	$84.85	
Recreation Building	$15,210.00		$13,990.01	$1,219.99	
Freedom Center	$12,340.00		$12,028.82	$311.18	
Meadow Building	$9,000.00		$7,662.55	$1,337.45	
Fire Station	$19,150.00		$18,837.56	$312.44	
Old Town Hall	$5,034.00		$4,325.71	$708.29	
Town Common	$3,200.00		$2,872.14	$327.86	
Town Clock	$600.00		$600.00	$0.00	
Cemetery Department	$31,374.00		$26,633.09	$4,740.91	
	$1,501,365.00	$46,653.84	$1,471,771.84	$76,247.00	$0.00
HUMAN SERVICES					
Board of Health	$22,535.00		$11,271.11	$11,263.89	
Quabbin Health District	$101,052.35		$101,052.35	$0.00	
Council on Aging	$287,282.00		$273,469.07	$13,812.93	
Veterans' Services	$51,314.00	$5,025.00	$56,146.15	$192.85	
	$462,183.35	$5,025.00	$441,938.68	$25,269.67	$0.00
CULTURE & RECREATION					
Clapp Memorial Library	$264,377.00	$1,222.00	$264,525.88	$1,073.12	
Recreation Department	$144,142.00		$143,710.63	$431.37	
Recreation - Pool	$47,170.00		$46,132.70	$1,037.30	
Teen Center Operating	$37,420.00		$35,252.35	$2,167.65	
Town Beach	$17,214.00		$17,185.92	$28.08	
Historical Commission	$498.00		$221.60	$276.40	
Historic District	$346.00		$319.39	$26.61	
Patriotic Exercises	$298.00		$0.00	$298.00	
	$511,465.00	$1,222.00	$507,348.47	$5,338.53	$0.00

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2003

	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY04
INSURANCE & UNCLASSIFIED					
Unclassified	$44,792.00		$44,101.85	$690.15	
Council of Governments	$56,372.00		$56,372.00	$0.00	
Pensions	$786,549.00		$786,049.00	$500.00	
Workers' Compensation	$24,398.00		$6,238.68	$18,159.32	
Unemployment	$10,000.00		$4,204.07	$5,795.93	
Health Insurance-Town Share	$520,256.00		$453,434.74	$66,821.26	
Group Life-Town Share	$4,300.00		$2,877.34	$1,422.66	
Medicare-Town Share	$46,000.00	$2,063.00	$48,062.93	$0.07	
General Insurance	$287,500.00		$286,865.00	$635.00	
Capital 2003	$70,300.00		$61,971.29	$8,328.71	$8,000.60
	$1,850,467.00	$2,063.00	$1,750,176.90	$102,353.10	$8,000.60
DEBT & INTEREST					
Maturing Debt	$2,716,000.00		$2,716,000.00	$0.00	
Interest	$1,929,297.00		$1,920,187.26	$9,109.74	
	$4,645,297.00	$0.00	$4,636,187.26	$9,109.74	$0.00
ENCUMBERED FUNDS					
General Government	$10,460.00		$10,460.00	$0.00	
Protection of Persons & Prop.	$0.00		$0.00	$0.00	
School Department	$19,420.50		$19,298.50	$122.00	
Public Works	$1,834.00		$1,834.00	$0.00	
Human Services	$10,473.69		$10,467.95	$5.74	
nsurance & Unclassified	$130,655.55		$61,804.47	$68,851.08	$61,280.06
	$172,843.74	$0.00	$103,864.92	$68,978.82	$61,280.06

Town of Belchertown
Statement of Expenditures Compared with Authorizations
For Period Ended June 30, 2003

	Budget	Transfers Not Approp.	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Encumbered to FY04
SUMMARY					
General Government	$1,266,577.20	($24,698.00)	$1,200,945.60	$40,933.60	$8,020.00
Protection of Persons/Property	$2,005,172.00	$10,350.00	$1,964,226.08	$51,295.92	$0.00
Education	$18,426,788.00	$3,089.00	$18,339,135.35	$90,741.65	$87,560.27
Public Works	$1,501,365.00	$46,653.84	$1,471,771.84	$76,247.00	$0.00
Human Services	$462,183.35	$5,025.00	$441,938.68	$25,269.67	$0.00
Culture & Recreation	$511,465.00	$1,222.00	$507,348.47	$5,338.53	$0.00
Insurance & Unclassified	$1,850,467.00	$2,063.00	$1,750,176.90	$102,353.10	$8,000.60
Debt & Interest	$4,645,297.00	$0.00	$4,636,187.26	$9,109.74	$0.00
	$30,669,314.55	$43,704.84	$30,311,730.18	$401,289.21	$103,580.87
Encumbered Funds	$172,843.74	$0.00	$103,864.92	$68,978.82	$61,280.06
TOTALS	$30,842,158.29	$43,704.84	$30,415,595.10	$470,268.03	$164,860.93
		*			

*Reserve Fund transfer to Sewer Enterprise Fund voted $1430
*MEMA money received $45,134.84 booked here as transfers not appropriated.

Special Revenue Fund
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2003

			GRANTS					
	Highways	Federal	State	School Lunch	School Revolvings	Departmental	Agency Funds	Totals (Memo Only)
Revenues:								
Grants	206,626.86	779,574.49	432,405.53	133,913.30		24,779.63		1,577,299.81
Collections & Fees		41,923.31	323,837.20	505,101.25	257,959.08	650,549.68	126,613.97	1,905,984.49
Interest			24.98			370.12	1,327.88	1,722.98
Performance Guarantees							1,500.00	1,500.00
Gifts		628.60				88,638.24		89,266.84
Temporary Loans								0.00
Other							314,777.29	314,777.29
Total Revenues	206,626.86	822,126.40	756,267.71	639,014.55	257,959.08	764,337.67	444,219.14	3,890,551.41
Expenditures:								
General Government			1,439.00			19,282.33	32,624.00	53,345.33
Protection of Persons & Property		51,557.73	64,679.51			40,168.97	75,932.42	232,338.63
Education		560,526.80	187,751.59	611,951.29	202,271.50	157,914.45	316,819.12	2,037,234.75
Department of Public Works	246,311.88		32,453.41			64,719.34		343,484.63
Human Services		155,613.86	16,778.54			17,929.53	1,641.00	191,962.93
Culture & Recreation			17,970.93			231,592.26		249,563.19
Debt & Interest			207,400.00					207,400.00
Total Expenditures	246,311.88	767,698.39	528,472.98	611,951.29	202,271.50	531,606.88	427,016.54	3,315,329.46
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(39,685.02)	54,428.01	227,794.73	27,063.26	55,687.58	232,730.79	17,202.60	575,221.95
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Operating Transfers In						168,460.00		168,460.00
Operating Transfers Out						403,443.00		403,443.00
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(234,983.00)	0.00	(234,983.00)

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Special Revenue Fund
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2003

		GRANTS						
	Highways	Federal	State	School Lunch	School Revolvings	Departmental	Agency Funds	Totals (Memo Only)
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Financ. Uses	(39,685.02)	54,428.01	227,794.73	27,063.26	55,687.58	(2,252.21)	17,202.60	340,238.95
Balance 7-1-02	9,378.27	(8,054.21)	319,561.99	29,551.07	72,450.86	626,347.47	192,176.33	1,241,411.78
Balance 6-30-03	(30,306.75)	46,373.80	547,356.72	56,614.33	128,138.44	624,095.26	209,378.93	1,581,650.73

Capital Projects Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2003

	High School	Health Title V	Police Station/ Sr. Center	Fire Station	WWTP & Other Sewer	Health Grant	Totals (Memo. Only)
Revenues:							
MWPAT					611,327.14		$611,327.14
USDA Grant					350,686.00		$350,686.00
USDA Loan					154,100.00		$154,100.00
Temporary Loans					1,136,400.00		$1,136,400.00
Bond Proceeds							$0.00
Total Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,252,513.14	0.00	$2,252,513.14
Expenditures:							
Construction	$1,827,951.88		$39,256.35		$886,724.46		$2,753,932.69
Equipment	$1,747,948.24			$349.65			$1,748,297.89
Return of Unexpended Funds		$3,583.00					$3,583.00
Temporary Loans					$1,705,800.00		$1,705,800.00
Total Expenditures	$3,575,900.12	$3,583.00	$39,256.35	$349.65	$2,592,524.46	$0.00	$6,211,613.58
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	($3,575,900.12)	($3,583.00)	($39,256.35)	($349.65)	($340,011.32)	$0.00	($3,959,100.44)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):							
Operating Transfers In							$0.00
Operation Transfers Out							
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Excess Revenues & Other Finan. Sources Over (Under) Expenditures & Other Finan. Uses	($3,575,900.12)	($3,583.00)	($39,256.35)	($349.65)	($340,011.32)	$0.00	($3,959,100.44)
Fund Balance 7-1-02	$4,258,815.15	$3,583.00	$65,007.26	$1,172.59	$832,633.67	$12,723.30	$5,173,934.97
Fund Balance 6-30-03	$682,915.03	$0.00	$25,750.91	$822.94	$492,622.35	$12,723.30	$1,214,834.53

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Sewer Enterprise Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance
for the Period Ended June 30, 2003

	Budget	Transfers	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenue:				
User Fees	501,096.00		486,372.48	(14,723.52)
Sewer Connections	10,000.00		26,000.00	16,000.00
Interest	0.00		1,758.08	1,758.08
Dumping Fees	6,000.00		9,470.50	3,470.50
Total Revenue	517,096.00	0.00	523,601.06	6,505.06
Expenditures:				
Environmental	459,060.00	1,430.00	450,676.82	9,813.18
Debt & Interest	484,923.00		444,509.08	40,413.92
Total Expenditures	943,983.00	1,430.00	895,185.90	48,797.10
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures			(371,584.84)	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Operating Transfers In	415,393.00		425,023.00	9,630.00
Operating Transfers Out	0.00		(131,000.00)	(131,000.00)
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	415,393.00	0.00	294,023.00	140,630.00
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing (Uses)			(77,561.84)	
Fund Balance 7/1/02			277,072.37	
Fund Balance 6/30/03			199,510.53	

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Landfill Enterprise Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Changes in Fund Balance for Period Ending June 30, 2003

	Budget	Transfers	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenue:				
User Fees	83,904.00		206,662.70	122,758.70
Sale of Recycling				
Total Revenue	83,904.00	0.00	206,662.70	122,758.70
Expenditures:				
Environmental	231,725.00		231,631.14	93.86
Hazardous Waste				
Total Expenditures	231,725.00	0.00	231,631.14	93.86
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures			(24,968.44)	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Operating Transfers In	0.00		19,000.00	19,000.00
Operating Transfers Out	0.00		0.00	0.00
Total Financing Sources (Uses)	0.00	0.00	19,000.00	19,000.00
Excess of Revenues & Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing (Uses)			(5,968.44)	
Fund Balance 7/1/02			178,468.85	
Fund Balance 6/30/03			172,500.41	

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Expendable Trust Funds
Statement of Changes in Fund Balance
For Period Ended June 30, 2003

	Balance 7/1/2002	Additions	Income	Expended	Transferred In/(Out)	Reserved	Undesignated Fund Balance	Balance 6/30/2003
Poor Funds:								
Susan M. D. Bridgman	$124,388.17		$17,272.06	$19,508.94			$122,151.29	$122,151.29
Whiting Street	$39,789.39		$617.60				$40,406.99	$40,406.99
School Funds:								
George W. Longley Music	$3,638.12		$69.93				$3,708.05	$3,708.05
Calvin Bridgman High School	$10,729.88		$207.52				$10,937.40	$10,937.40
Library Fund:								
Calvin Bridgman Library	$748.83		$58.89				$807.72	$807.72
Town Clock Fund:								
Fank Scialla Memorial	$2,572.62		$58.15				$2,630.77	$2,630.77
Senior Center Fund:								
Senior Center Memorial	$3,049.96		$172.74				$3,222.70	$3,222.70
Cemetery Funds:								
Perpetual Care	$22,906.37		$1,771.30	$6,711.00			$17,966.67	$17,966.67
Susan M.D. Bridgman	$1,087.10		$13.58				$1,100.68	$1,100.68
Nellie E. Brown	$3,313.40		$50.77	$269.36			$3,094.81	$3,094.81
Willard Stebbins	$1,504.55		$37.24				$1,541.79	$1,541.79
Vianna E. Somes	$1,999.75		$28.51				$2,028.26	$2,028.26
E. Schmidt Memorial	$1,637.14	$861.31		$1,637.14		$861.31	($0.00)	$861.31
Penson Fund	$13,986.38		$344.52				$14,330.90	$14,330.90
Conservation Fund	$1,321.98		$12.87	$650.00			$684.85	$684.85
Stabilization Fund	$486,365.12	$700,000.00	$10,878.95		($200,000.00)	$500,000.00	$497,244.07	$997,244.07
Workers' Compensation Fund	$68,497.49	$22,000.00	$944.07				$91,441.56	$91,441.56
	$787,536.25	$722,861.31	$32,538.70	$28,776.44	($200,000.00)	$500,861.31	$813,298.51	$1,314,159.82

Non-Expendable Trust Funds
Statement of Changes in Fund Balance
for Period Ended June 30, 2003

	Balance 7/1/2002	Additions	Balance 6/30/2003
Poor Funds:			
Susan M. D. Bridgman	512,860.69		512,860.69
Whiting Street	10,000.00		10,000.00
School Funds:			
George W. Longley Music	2,000.00		2,000.00
Calvin Bridgman High School	6,000.00		6,000.00
Library Fund:			
Calvin Bridgman Library	4,000.00		4,000.00
Town Clock Fund:			
Fank Scialla Memorial	2,100.00		2,100.00
Senior Center Fund:			
Senior Center Memorial	10,875.51		10,875.51
Penson Fund:			
Pensions	10,000.00		10,000.00
Retirement Trust	0.00	72,933.60	72,933.60
Cemetery Funds:			
Perpetual Care	100,687.14	5,100.00	105,787.14
Susan M. D. Bridgman	200.00		200.00
Nellie E. Brown	1,000.00		1,000.00
Willard Stebbins	1,500.00		1,500.00
Vianna E. Somes	300.00		300.00
	661,523.34	78,033.60	739,556.94

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts
Schedule of Indebtedness
June 30, 2003

	Loan Issued	Rate	Outstanding 7/1/2002	Reduced FY2003	Outstanding 6/30/2003	Due In FY2004
Daigle Well Water Loan	1994	5.00	371,000.00	31,000.00	340,000.00	31,000.00
School Loans:						
Middle School	1992	4.55	835,000.00	425,000.00	410,000.00	410,000.00
Elementary	1996	4.87	7,050,000.00	575,000.00	6,475,000.00	610,000.00
High School	2002	4.50	32,351,800.00	1,621,800.00	30,730,000.00	1,620,000.00
Buildings:						
Sr. Center	2002	4.50	888,200.00	63,200.00	825,000.00	55,000.00
Sewer Loans:						
Relining Loan	1995	0.00	20,889.00	10,321.00	10,568.00	8,162.00
WWTP	1999	0.00	7,529,400.00	374,600.00	7,154,800.00	313,667.00
Stadler Street	1999	0.00	470,666.00	20,970.00	449,696.00	17,121.00
Springfield Road	1999	0.00	560,599.00	25,028.00	535,571.00	20,418.00
Pine Valley	1999	0.00	1,186,551.00	53,040.00	1,133,511.00	43,197.00
USDA Pine Valley	2003	4.50	154,100.00	0.00	154,100.00	7,705.00
Board of Health: Title V	1999	0.00	75,000.00	0.00	75,000.00	3,968.00
Schools:						
SPED Loan	2001	0.00	128,000.00	32,000.00	96,000.00	32,000.00
			51,621,205.00	3,231,959.00	48,389,246.00	3,172,238.00

Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts

Amortization Schedule
June 30, 2003

	Principal	Interest	Total
2004	3,262,556.00	2,245,547.78	5,508,103.78
2005	2,881,034.00	2,103,252.13	4,984,286.13
2006	2,655,347.00	1,969,150.96	4,624,497.96
2007	2,660,274.00	1,842,055.41	4,502,329.41
2008	3,695,071.00	1,710,357.20	5,405,428.20
2009	2,728,393.00	1,578,437.07	4,306,830.07
2010	2,772,382.00	1,460,852.71	4,233,234.71
2011	2,814,773.00	1,338,539.14	4,153,312.14
2012	2,858,473.00	1,213,596.21	4,072,069.21
2013	2,670,873.00	1,315,847.41	3,986,720.41
2014	2,950,873.00	976,577.75	3,927,450.75
2015	2,965,473.00	827,616.66	3,793,089.66
2016	2,330,673.00	686,254.43	3,016,927.43
2017	2,346,173.00	576,543.02	2,922,716.02
2018	2,366,873.00	457,554.10	2,824,427.10
2019	2,387,673.00	337,821.13	2,725,494.13
2020	1,781,673.00	235,786.90	2,017,459.90
2021	1,626,673.00	154,465.18	1,781,138.18
2022	1,622,705.00	77,405.95	1,700,110.95
2023	7,705.00	346.73	8,051.73
	49,385,670.00	21,108,007.87	70,493,677.87

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER
JULY 1, 2002 - JUNE 30,2003

CASH ON HAND 6/30/2002	$ 12,667,878.31	PAYMENTS AS AUTHORIZED	$ 47,869,033.36
RECEIPTS	$ 42,673,134.27	CASH ON HAND 6/30/2003	$ 7,471,979.22
	$ 55,341,012.58		$ 55,341,012.58

INTEREST INCOME FROM SAVINGS DEPOSITS, INVESTMENTS, BUT EXCLUDINC TRUST FUNDS, SPECIAL ACCTS & STABILIZATION FUND $ 178,747.23

TRUST FUNDS AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNT	BALANCE 6/30/2002	DEPOSITS	INTEREST & DIVIDENDS	TRANSFERS&W/D	BALANCE 6/30/2003
SCHOOL FUNDS					
C. BRIDGMAN (H.S.)	$ 16,729.88		$ 207.52		$ 16,937.40
GEORGE LONGLEY	$ 5,638.12		$ 69.93		$ 5,708.05
CEMETERY FUNDS					
SUSAN BRIDGMAN	$ 1,287.10		$ 13.58		$ 1,300.68
WILLARD STEBBINS	$ 3,004.55		$ 37.24		$ 3,041.79
VIANNA SOMES	$ 2,299.75		$ 28.51		$ 2,328.26
NELLIE BROWN	$ 4,311.68		$ 52.49	$ (269.36)	$ 4,094.81
PERPETUAL CARE	$ 20,485.15	$ 5,100.00	$ 267.35	$ (7,493.00)	$ 18,359.50
PERPETUAL CARE (MMDT)	$ 104,592.08		$ 1,502.23		$ 106,094.31
POOR FUNDS					
SUSAN BRIDGMAN	$ 637,248.86		$ 17,526.03	$ (19,763.11)	$ 635,011.78
WHITING STREET	$ 49,789.39		$ 617.60		$ 50,406.99
MISC FUNDS					
F. SCIALLA (CLOCK)	$ 5,172.12		$ 58.15	$ (499.50)	$ 4,730.77
C. BRIDGMAN (LIBRARY)	$ 4,748.83		$ 58.89		$ 4,807.72
CONSERVATION	$ 1,321.98		$ 12.87	$ (650.00)	$ 684.85
SENIOR CENTER	$ 13,925.47		$ 172.74		$ 14,098.21
PENSION RESERVE	$ 23,986.38		$ 344.52		$ 24,330.90
STABILIZATION FUND	$ 486,365.12	$ 700,000.00	$ 10,878.95	$ (200,000.00)	$ 997,244.07
WORKERS COMPENSATION TRUST	$ 68,497.49	$ 22,000.00	$ 944.07		$ 91,441.56
TOTALS	$ 1,449,403.95	$ 727,100.00	$ 32,792.67	$ (228,674.97)	$ 1,980,621.65

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER
JULY 1, 2002 - JUNE 30,2003

FUNDS BORROWED DURING THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2002 - JUNE 30, 2003

NOTE# & PURPOSE	FROM	DATED		AMOUNT	DUE DATE	INTEREST RATE
INTERIM LOAN - TRI LAKES SEWER	COMM. MASS - MWPAT	12/4/2002	$	2,000,000.00	12/31/2003	0.73%
#962 RENEWAL USDA SEWER LOAN	EASTERN BANK	12/24/2002	$	569,400.00	3/28/2003	1.55%
SEWER BOND- SPRINGFIELD ROAD	U.S. DEPT. AGRICULTURE	3/27/2003	$	154,100.00	3/27/2023	4.50%
#963 RENEWAL TRI-LAKES SEWER	CAPE COD BANK & TRUST	5/23/2003	$	567,000.00	5/21/2004	1.35%

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

LISA M BANNER
TOWN TREASURER

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
TOWN / TAX COLLECTOR
REPORT
7/1/2002 - 6/30/2003

FISCAL 1975 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 06/30/2002			$	101.20
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	101.20		
	$	101.20	$	101.20

FISCAL 1976 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	234.60
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	234.60		
	$	234.60	$	234.60

FISCAL 1979 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	891.48
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	891.48		
	$	891.48	$	891.48

FISCAL 1980 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	957.60
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	957.60		
	$	957.60	$	957.60

FISCAL 1981 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	792.40
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	792.40		
	$	792.40	$	792.40

FISCAL 1982 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	1,163.14
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	1,163.14		
	$	1,163.14	$	1,163.14

FISCAL 1984 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	72.59
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	72.59		
	$	72.59	$	72.59

FISCAL 1988 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	64.36
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	64.36		
	$	64.36	$	64.36

FISCAL 1989 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	100.93
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	100.93		
	$	100.93	$	100.93

FISCAL 1990 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	112.47
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	112.47		
	$	112.47	$	112.47

FISCAL 1991 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	314.10
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	314.10		
	$	314.10	$	314.10

FISCAL 1992 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	151.57
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	151.57		
	$	151.57	$	151.57

FISCAL 1993 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	1,713.81
COLLECTED	$	464.79		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	1,249.02		
	$	1,713.81	$	1,713.81

FISCAL 1994 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	1,242.24
COLLECTED	$	4.67		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	1,237.57		
	$	1,242.24	$	1,242.24

FISCAL 1995 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	1,230.48
COLLECTED				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	1,230.48		
	$	1,230.48	$	1,230.48

FISCAL 1996 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	748.10
COLLECTED				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	748.10		
	$	748.10	$	748.10

FISCAL 1997 REAL ESTATE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	4,608.04
COLLECTED	$	562.22		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	4,045.82		
	$	4,608.04	$	4,608.04

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
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FISCAL 1998 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 4,243.73
REFUNDED		$ 767.73
COLLECTED	$ 1,240.52	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 3,770.94	
	$ 5,011.46	$ 5,011.46

FISCAL 1999 REAL ESTATE		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 13,100.30
TAX TITLE	$ 736.57	
COLLECTED	$ 9,886.81	
ABATED	$ 37.59	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 2,439.33	
	$ 13,100.30	$ 13,100.30

ISCAL 2000 REAL ESTATE		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 21,390.75
O TAX TITLE	$ 11,161.62	
OLLECTED	$ 5,964.55	
UTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 4,264.58	
	$ 21,390.75	$ 21,390.75

SCAL 2001 REAL ESTATE		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 71,445.19
O TAX TITLE	$ 20,443.93	
OLLECTED	$ 27,398.57	
UTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 23,602.69	
	$ 71,445.19	$ 71,445.19

SCAL 2002 REAL ESTATE		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 381,316.05
UDIT ADJUSTMENT		$ 713.14
TAX TITLE	$ 150,718.66	
EFUNDED		$ 4,909.37
BATED	$ 3,419.01	
OLLECTED	$ 149,641.02	
UTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 83,159.87	
	$ 386,938.56	$ 386,938.56

SCAL 2003 REAL ESTATE		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 6,445,933.56
MM FOR COLLECTION		$ 7,023,573.42
FUNDED		$ 64,078.20
TAX TITLE	$ 126,218.09	
DIT ADJUSTMENT	$ 893.76	
ATED	$ 60,378.66	
LLECTED	$ 13,089,873.39	
TSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 256,221.28	
	$ 13,533,585.18	$ 13,533,585.18

CAL 2004 REAL ESTATE		
MM FOR COLLECTION		$ 6,957,906.24
LLECTED	$ 110,008.86	
TSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 6,847,897.38	
	$ 6,957,906.24	$ 6,957,906.24

FISCAL 1991 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 1,211.49
AUDIT ADJUSTMENT		$ 459.15
COLLECTED	$ 26.86	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 1,643.78	
	$ 1,670.64	$ 1,670.64

FISCAL 1992 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 2,003.47
COLLECTED	$ 41.65	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 1,961.82	
	$ 2,003.47	$ 2,003.47

FISCAL 1993 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 3,825.23
AUDIT ADJUSTMENT		$ 162.79
COLLECTED	$ 173.09	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 3,814.93	
	$ 3,988.02	$ 3,988.02

FISCAL 1994 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 6,266.63
COLLECTED		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 6,266.63	
	$ 6,266.63	$ 6,266.63

FISCAL 1995 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 7,346.39
COLLECTED		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 7,346.39	
	$ 7,346.39	$ 7,346.39

FISCAL 1996 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 12,111.12
COLLECTED	$ 103.60	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 12,007.52	
	$ 12,111.12	$ 12,111.12

FISCAL 1997 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 6,144.59
COLLECTED	$ 20.88	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 6,123.71	
	$ 6,144.59	$ 6,144.59

FISCAL 1998 PERS.PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 4,339.17
COLLECTED	$ 107.26	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 4,231.91	
	$ 4,339.17	$ 4,339.17

FISCAL 1999 PERS. PROP		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 4,285.57
COLLECTED	$ 90.98	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 4,194.59	
	$ 4,285.57	$ 4,285.57

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
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FISCAL 2000 PERS. PROP				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	2,038.44
COLLECTED	$	106.86		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	1,931.58		
	$	2,038.44	$	2,038.44

FISCAL 2001 PERS. PROP				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	2,891.49
REFUNDED			$	11.65
COLLECTED	$	188.86		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	2,714.28		
	$	2,903.14	$	2,903.14

FISCAL 2002 PERS.PROP				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	3,795.27
ABATED	$	37.80		
COLLECTED	$	1,914.80		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	1,842.67		
	$	3,795.27	$	3,795.27

FISCAL 2003 PERS. PROP				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	145,591.24
COMM FOR COLLECTION			$	156,047.83
REFUNDED			$	365.32
COLLECTED	$	298,194.33		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	3,810.06		
	$	302,004.39	$	302,004.39

FISCAL 2004 PERS PROP				
COMM FOR COLLECTION			$	153,852.94
COLLECTED	$	501.77		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	153,351.17		
	$	153,852.94	$	153,852.94

1983 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	107.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	107.50		
	$	107.50	$	107.50

1984 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	148.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	148.50		
	$	148.50	$	148.50

1985 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	115.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	115.50		
	$	115.50	$	115.50

1986 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	59.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	59.00		
	$	59.00	$	59.00

1987 FARM ANIMAL EXC				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	59.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	59.00		
	$	59.00	$	59.00

1988 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	279.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	279.00		
	$	279.00	$	279.00

1989 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	68.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	68.00		
	$	68.00	$	68.00

1990 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	263.50
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	263.50		
	$	263.50	$	263.50

1991 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	106.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	106.00		
	$	106.00	$	106.00

1992 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	74.00
COLLECTED	$	-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	74.00		
	$	74.00	$	74.00

1993 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	1,129.13
ABATED	$	974.25		
COLLECTED		-		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	154.88		
	$	1,129.13	$	1,129.13

1994 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	1,125.38
ABATED	$	972.75		
COLLECTED				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	152.63		
	$	1,125.38	$	1,125.38

1995 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002			$	153.75
COLLECTED				
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$	153.75		
	$	153.75	$	153.75

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996 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 534.50
BATED	$ 374.00	
OLLECTED		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 160.50	
	$ 534.50	$ 534.50

997 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 160.50
OLLECTED	$ -	
UTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 160.50	
	$ 160.50	$ 160.50

998 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
UTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 75.00
OLLECTED	$ -	
UTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 75.00	
	$ 75.00	$ 75.00

99 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
JTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 78.00
OLLECTED		
JTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 78.00	
	$ 78.00	$ 78.00

00 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
JTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 80.00
LLECTED		
JTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 80.00	
	$ 80.00	$ 80.00

01 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
TSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 394.13
LLECTED	$ 323.62	
TSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 70.51	
	$ 394.13	$ 394.13

02 FARM ANIMAL EXCISE		
MM FOR COLLECTION		$ 1,907.23
LLECTED	$ 1,444.84	
TSTANDING 06/30/2003	$ 462.39	
	$ 1,907.23	$ 1,907.23

0 SEWER LIENS		
TSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 4,431.24
LLECTED	$ 4,431.24	
TSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ -	
	$ 4,431.24	$ 4,431.24

1 SEWER LIENS		
TSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 1,199.38
LLECTED	$ 1,199.38	
TSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ -	
	$ 1,199.38	$ 1,199.38

2002 SEWER LIENS		
OUSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 6,676.72
TO TAX TITLE	$ 2,179.85	
COLLECTED	$ 3,296.77	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 1,200.10	
	$ 6,676.72	$ 6,676.72

2001 SEWER CHARGES SUBS:2003 SEWER LIENS		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 27,115.13
COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 1,143.86
TO TAX TITLE	$ 1,719.47	
COLLECTED	$ 23,296.93	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 3,242.59	
	$ 28,258.99	$ 28,258.99

2002 SEWER CHARGES		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 85,500.74
COMM. FOR COLLECTION		$ 259,362.18
REFUNDED		$ 821.55
COLLECTED	$ 321,095.52	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 24,588.95	
	$ 345,684.47	$ 345,684.47

2003 SEWER CHARGES		
COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 262,794.14
COLLECTED	$ 133,499.24	
ABATED	$ 47.63	
OUTSTANDING 06/30/2003	$ 129,247.27	
	$262,794.14	$262,794.14

1994 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 6,486.79
ABATED	$ 6,486.79	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ -	
	$ 6,486.79	$ 6,486.79

1995 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 4,490.16
ABATED	$ 4,433.28	
COLLECTED	$ 56.88	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ -	
	$ 4,490.16	$ 4,490.16

1996 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 5,612.33
ABATED	$ 5,529.83	
COLLECTED	$ 82.50	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ -	
	$ 5,612.33	$ 5,612.33

1997 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC		
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 7,446.26
ABATED	$ 6,961.36	
COLLECTED	$ 484.90	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ -	
	$ 7,446.26	$ 7,446.26

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1998 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 6,766.15
ABATED	$ 5,982.21	
COLLECTED	$ 783.94	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ -	
	$ 6,766.15	$ 6,766.15

1999 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 8,563.95
COLLECTED	$ 1,685.00	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 6,878.95	
	$ 8,563.95	$ 8,563.95

2000 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 10,290.80
COLLECTED	$ 3,582.54	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 6,708.26	
	$ 10,290.80	$ 10,290.80

2001 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 27,067.93
COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 16,638.63
REFUNDED		$ 1,058.47
ABATED	$ 4,713.98	
COLLECTED	$ 26,298.56	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 13,752.49	
	$ 44,765.03	$ 44,765.03

2002 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 138,982.24
COMM. FOR COLLECTION		$ 219,655.72
REFUNDED		$ 11,593.19
ABATED	$ 19,270.50	
COLLECTED	$ 325,424.32	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 25,536.33	
	$ 370,231.15	$ 370,231.15

2003 MOTOR VEHICLE EXC

COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 1,183,407.28
REFUNDED		$ 7,539.45
ABATED	$ 34,944.67	
COLLECTED	$ 1,000,332.07	
OUTSTANDING 06/30/2003	$ 155,669.99	
	$ 1,190,946.73	$ 1,190,946.73

MISCELLANEOUS REC.

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 54,739.29
COMMITTED FOR COLL.		$ 87,013.09
COLLECTED	$ 71,234.69	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 70,517.69	
	$ 141,752.38	$ 141,752.38

SEWER CONNECTIONS

COMMITTED FOR COLL.		$ 27,000.00
COLLECTED	$ 26,000.00	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 1,000.00	
	$ 27,000.00	$ 27,000.00

2001 DAIGLE WELL BETT.

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 131.25
COLLECTED	-	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ 131.25	
	$ 131.25	$ 131.25

2002 DAIGLE WELL BETT.

OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002		$ 1,419.86
TO TAX TITLE	$ 461.62	
COLLECTED	$ 958.24	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2002	-	
	$ 1,419.86	$ 1,419.86

2003 DAIGLE WELL BETT.

COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 21,440.00
TO TAX TITLE	$ 97.38	
COLLECTED	$ 21,019.90	
OUTSTANDING 06/30/2003	$ 322.72	
	$ 21,440.00	$ 21,440.00

BETTERMENT IN ADVANCE

COMMITTED FOR COLL.		$ 7,963.81
COLLECTED	$ 7,963.81	
OUTSTANDING 6/30/2003	$ -	
	$ 7,963.81	$ 7,963.81

2003 TITLE V LOAN

COMM FOR COLLECTION		$ 7,302.00
COLLECTED	$ 7,302.00	
OUTSTANDING 06/30/2003	-	
	$ 7,302.00	$ 7,302.00

COMSTAR
AMBULANCE ACCOUNT

OUTSTANDING 06/30/2002		$ 140,858.15
COMMITTED FOR COLL.		$ 421,740.33
REFUNDED		$ 257.60
ABATED	$ 110,499.95	
COLLECTED	$ 271,308.41	
AUDIT ADJUSTMENT	$ 587.58	
OUTSTANDING 06/30/2003	$ 180,460.14	
	$ 562,856.08	$ 562,856.08

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
TOWN / TAX COLLECTOR
REPORT
7/1/2002 - 6/30/2003

TOTAL COLLECTIONS			$	15,770,406.00
AMBULANCE ACCT	JULY 1, 2002- JUNE 30,2003		$	271,308.41
		TOTAL	$	16,041,714.41

TAXES,LIENS,EXCISES		$	15,678,313.23
INTEREST/FEES		$	92,092.77
AMBULANCE ACCT		$	271,308.41
	TOTAL	$	16,041,714.41

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

LISA M BANNER
TOWN AND TAX COLLECTOR

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
VITAL STATISTICS

2002 Vital Statistics received after filing last year's report

BIRTHS

PLACE	MALE	FEMALE
Hadley		1
Northampton	3	
Springfield	6	6
Ware	1	

No Additional Marriages

DEATHS

Males: 2 Females: 0

Belchertown Residents: 2

Place of Death	
Springfield	1
Ware	1

TOWN CLERK' REPORT
VITAL STATISTICS

2003 STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Place	Male	Female
Belchertown		1
Holyoke	2	4
Southbridge	1	
Springfield	48	42
Northampton	22	17
Ware	5	1
	78	65

MARRIAGES

	Male	Female
Belchertown Residents	39	40
Non-Residents	23	22
	62	62

Married in Belchertown:	26
Married Out-of-Town:	36

DEATHS

Males: 48 Females: 33 = 81

Belchertown Resident: 81
Non-Resident: 0

Place of Death		**Place of Death**	
Agawam -	1	Longmeadow -	1
Amherst -	1	Ludlow -	1
Belchertown -	23	Northampton -	8
Boston -	1	Montague -	1
Brimfield -	1	Palmer -	1
Greenfield -	2	South Hadley -	3
Hadley -	7	Springfield -	6
Hampden -	1	Ware -	10
Holyoke -	5	Wilbraham -	5
		Worcester -	1

2003 TOWN CLERK
FINANCIAL REPORT

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
B-M-D CERTIFIED COPY	365.00	225.00	549.00	430.00	200.00	360.00	485.00	225.00	220.00	275.00	215.00	250.00	3799.00
MARRIAGE INTENTIONS	20.00	30.00	20.00	90.00	70.00	160.00	80.00	110.00	50.00	10.00	10.00	20.00	670.00
POLE ORDERS	40.00	100.00	20.00	40.00		160.00	40.00	40.00	140.00		20.00	20.00	620.00
PARKING CITATIONS	100.00												100.00
DOG FINES		60.00		10.00	45.00	690.00	575.00	575.00	165.00	125.00	200.00	140.00	2585.00
DOG OFFICER FEES	95.00	40.00	85.00	155.00	360.00	330.00	480.00		680.00	219.00	60.00	250.00	2754.00
ZONING/SUBDIVISION BKS	75.00	150.00	75.00	100.00	50.00		150.00	161.00	48.00	122.00	26.00	100.00	1057.00
PLANNING BOARD FEES	150.00	260.00	2539.50	280.00	415.00	265.00	245.00	1865.00	1465.00	600.00	1370.00	8820.00	18274.50
BOARD OF APPEALS	100.00	300.00	300.00	200.00	550.00	100.00		100.00	200.00	200.00	200.00		2250.00
FUEL/GAS REGISTRATION			27.50	5.00									32.50
BUSINESS REGISTRATION	30.00	70.00	80.00	50.00	100.00	55.00	115.00	115.00	50.00	50.00	85.00	110.00	910.00
RAFFLE PERMITS			10.00		20.00	10.00		10.00	20.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	100.00
STREET LIST BK/DISK	20.00	20.00				20.00	240.00	80.00	40.00	60.00	40.00	40.00	560.00
VOTER ID CARDS													0.00
HOMESTEAD FILINGS	20.00		20.00	20.00				10.00	20.00		10.00	20.00	120.00
UCC		15.00			1065.28	30.00			235.33				1345.61
SPORTING LIC SALES**	708.25	300.75	968.25	993.00	824.00	831.00	575.50	71.50	86.00	173.25	83.00	2094.75	7709.25
SPORTING ADM FEES	32.45	12.45	42.75	51.20	40.60	39.10	26.40	3.00	3.30	7.05	4.20	82.85	345.35
DOG LICENSE	3702.00	2432.00	1697.00	490.00	1468.00	1072.00	406.00	386.00	256.00	174.00	490.00	1567.00	14140.00
BURIAL PERMITS	30.00		90.00	45.00	45.00	30.00	60.00		15.00	15.00		60.00	390.00
CONSERV. TRAIL MAPS	8.00	8.00	30.00	2.00	8.00		4.00	4.00	4.00	8.00			76.00
HISTORICAL APPLICATION			75.00						25.00	50.00			150.00
PASSPORTS			30.00	90.00	510.00	540.00	390.00	810.00	450.00	630.00	240.00	690.00	4380.00
MSC SALES	1.40	11.00	16.80	41.60	32.60	16.80	21.80	22.00	20.20	124.20	48.20		356.60
TOTALS	5497.10	4034.20	6675.80	3092.80	5803.48	4708.90	3893.70	4587.50	4192.83	2852.50	3111.40	14274.60	62724.81
** PAYMENTS TO:													
Div. of Fisheries&Wildlife	708.25	300.75	968.25	993.00	824.00	831.00	575.50	71.50	86.00	173.25	83.00	2094.75	7709.25
Town of Belchertown	4788.85	3733.45	5707.55	2099.80	4979.48	3877.90	3318.20	4516.00	4106.83	2679.25	3028.40	12179.85	55015.56
TOTAL	5497.10	4034.20	6675.80	3092.80	5803.48	4708.90	3893.70	4587.50	4192.83	2852.50	3111.40	14274.60	62724.81

Respectfully Submitted,
William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

ADA COMMITTEE

The American With Disabilities Committee members for the year 2003 were: Paul Adzima, ADA Liaison; Judy Metcalf, Board of Health; Steven Williams, Director of Public Works; Gary Brougham, Town Administrator; Max Bock, Maintenance Department; Michael Krzystofik, School Department; Sally Dodge and Ruthella Tucker were town-appointed representatives.

The Committee met on the first Tuesday of every other month: June 3rd, August 5th, October 7th and December 2nd, 2003.

The ADA Committee responds to any complaint on ADA related issues, and monitors the progress of the resolution of those issues.

The ADA Committee invites the public's opinion and concerns to help promote a safe environment for those who are disabled.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors is pleased to provide its 2003 Annual Report to the Board of Selectmen.

During 2003, the Board of Assessors experienced no personnel changes as Michael Forgue was re-elected by the voters of Belchertown. Samuel Joyal, Chairman; and Deborah Sammataro, Clerk; rounded out the Board.

Because of sound fiscal management, Belchertown's financial outlook remained strong once again. Important figures in establishing the FY03 budget included:

Total Taxable Value	$795,609,570
Town Meeting Appropriations	$32,450,547
Estimated Receipts/Revenue sources	$18,638,765
Levy Limit and Debt Exclusions	$13,857,945
Tax Levy	$13,811,782
New Growth	$481,022
FY02 Tax Rate	$17.36

The Board acted upon all timely filed tax abatement applications along with exemption applications for qualifying disabled veterans, elderly, widowed and blind property owners. The Assessors conducted a revaluation of all taxable property in town for FY03. Due to an increase in market conditions, the single-family property class increased approximately 13%. The Board is confident that properties in town are being valued fairly and equitably according to mass appraisal standards and Massachusetts Department of Revenue guidelines.

The Belchertown Board of Assessors along with the entire Assessing staff is committed to providing the citizens of Belchertown and the general public with timely and accurate information.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Assessors
Samuel Joyal, Chairman
Michael Forgue, Vice Chairman
Deborah Sammataro, Clerk

BELCHERTOWN COMMUNITY TELEVISION

The purpose of Belchertown Community Television is to operate the BCTV Channels 5, 62, and 63 (dedicated to Town School Department) on the cable television system in Belchertown. BCTV provides training and technical assistance in the use of video production equipment, access to video resources, and time on the access channels. Facilities are available for the production and presentation of live or videotaped programming of interest to the Belchertown community. BCTV's role is to provide resources, training, and assistance while remaining content neutral regarding their use.

BCTV continues its modest growth and its effort to become an all-digital broadcasting system. We continue to broadcast a wide range of government, community, and educational programs of interest to Belchertown. We, also, continue to be in need of volunteers. BCTV is run entirely by volunteers and what we can produce is limited to the time these volunteers are available; more volunteers equals more programming. Come play with us.

Government Access Programs – BCTV broadcasts the following Town Boards, Committees, and/or Commissions:

- Selectmen
- Conservation Commission
- Planning Board
- School Committee
- EDIC
- Council on Aging
- The Yearly Finance Committee Budget Cycle
- The Annual Town Meeting
- Special Town Meetings
- Other meetings of immediate interest to Town Residents

(Meetings currently not covered are: Housing Authority, ZBA, Recreation Commission, Board of Health, and so forth)

Educational Access Programs – Educational programs being broadcast on BCTV include:

- BHS Home and Away Football games
- BHS Girls JV and Varsity Basketball
- BHS Boys JV and Varsity Basketball
- BHS Hockey games
- Some BHS Wrestling matches
- Some BHS Chess tournaments
- Some BHS presentations
- Most BHS Band Concerts
- Most CHCS Band Concerts
- The CHCS Stepping Up Ceremony
- The BHS Senior Graduation Ceremony

(Events not being covered include Soccer games, Baseball games, Softball games, Drama Presentations...)

Community Access Programs – BCTV continues to cover as many community events as possible. A partial list includes:

- ...About Belchertown
- Legislator's Report
- Your Money – Your Time – Your Worth
- The BlueRibbonCooks
- The Summer Community Band Concerts on the Common
- The Annual Belchertown Fair
- The Annual Fair Parade

Special Community Interest Programs this year include:

- The BlueRibbonCooks – Books and Cooks Show
- Rag Shag Parade
- Safe Night Trick or Treats
- Veterans' Day Ceremony and Parade
- Memorial Day Ceremonies
- The Town Christmas Concerts
- A Musical Christmas Card at Belchertown High School

(Events not being covered include the Belchertown Little League, most Senior Center events, and all Recreation Department games.)

Weekly Church Services on BCTV include:

- St. Francis Roman Catholic Church
- Dwight Chapel
- Hope United Methodist Church
- Grace Community Chapel
- World Wide Church of God

Accomplishments and Goals

Last year's goals were to overhaul our three broadcast consoles, and to find someone to train us in correct audio procedures. Charter Communication did overhaul our broadcast consoles with new improved modulators but we were unable to locate a volunteer to teach us how to work the audio mixers.

BCTV is always in need of volunteers. Fortunately we do have a solid core of volunteers but we could certainly use two to three more dedicated community members. There are meetings we simply cannot cover, repair work that waits for months to be completed, and, as mentioned above, skills we do not possess that we could use, such as audio mixing.

A continuing goal of BCTV has been to become an all-digital station. As of this year, we do have digital cameras, digital editing equipment, and digital playback DVD's and Dig8 tape decks. What we need to do now is to negotiate with Charter Communication for digital bandwidth on their cable system. Once that happens, we will be a totally digital content provider. This should improve the quality of our images and our sound.

Dan Fitzpatrick, member of the BCTV Internal Board, has been working extensively at the Belchertown High School in many areas for the benefit of BCTV. He has organized and nurtured the BHS Tech Club. Brian Maroney, Kelsey Radwilowicz, and Bobbi Jo Akins have been of great assistance to BCTV every time we have produced a show there. Their knowledge of the audio, lighting, and wiring systems in the High School has been invaluable.

Dan Fitzpatrick and Charter Communication have successfully completed the integration of Charter's Cable System with the internal H.S. cable system so that BCTV can go live finally from the High School. There were innumerable problems to overcome. Dan's persistence and the willingness of Charter have finally paid off.

Mr. Fitzpatrick and the High School Building Committee funded and oversaw the installation of sound cables that allow BCTV and the High School to control the Veterans' Auditorium Sound System from the control booth located at the rear of the auditorium. This is standard practice in the industry. The initial installation of a sound system located back stage left was just unacceptable.

Mr. Fitzpatrick also was able to get Charter Communication to install cables from the High School Stadium directly into their cable system. This enabled BCTV to go live from the football stadium. Bob Farrington was the producer of these Orioles' Football games. He oversaw the broadcast or taping of all eleven games played this year. His loyal group of volunteers included Bob Farrington Jr., Rick Aldrich, and Brian Aldrich.

Audrey LePage, BCTV volunteer, is the person who inputs all BCTV Bulletin Board material. Ms. LePage has acquired improved graphics and set up Bulletin Board guidelines. She has brought her artistic eye to the creation of each page and improved the overall look of our Bulletin Board.

Charter Communication's Tech Department has continued to be an enthusiastic partner with BCTV. When we have a problem, they have the dedication, knowledge, and patience to solve it. We could not be anywhere near as good as we are without their support. Thanks to Kim, Rick, Mindy, and Jeff for always being there.

Finally thanks to our volunteers: BCTV runs on volunteer power. Without the following people there would be no BCTV. Thank you to:

Rich Aldrich
Brian Aldrich
Rev. Bruce Arbour
Mike Beresky
Gerry Biron
Keith Bodley
Louise Christ
Bob Farrington
Bob Farrington Jr.
Terry Fontaine
Janis Gush
Audrey LePage
Norm Loftus
Mary Medrek
Ron Pobieglo

Respectfully Submitted,
Lewis Louraine, General Manager

BCTV Internal Board
Ron Akins
Dan Fitzpatrick
Peg Louraine

CIVIL DEFENSE

The purpose of Civil Defense or Emergency Coordination is a support group interacting with town departments to assist in emergency planning and preparedness. These are primarily staff, not "command" functions, where the Coordinators serve under joint action arrangements with other Town Officials.

We have conducted an annual review of the emergency contingency plans, which focus on natural and technological hazards. We continue an ongoing partnership of emergency preparedness with Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), which requires our Town Plan to be filed with the State Agency.

The group has been awarded $3,000.00 in grant funding this year made available through the Office of Homeland Security. The goal will be to compile our "all-hazard" plan onto a laptop computer. This will make updating the information and gaining access simpler.

The members of the Civil Defense Committee are a diverse group of people, mostly made up from our public safety sector. Their expertise in emergency response covers an extremely wide range, everything from natural disasters through technological incidents involving hazardous materials.

We continue to work closely with the American Red Cross to prepare temporary shelters when need arises. Interested citizens who would like to assist when an emergency shelter is opened for the community may contact the Director at 323-7571.

The Civil Defense Committee members are committed to actively move ahead. With the help of the Board of Selectmen and citizens, we can and will prepare Belchertown to meet needs of the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward F. Bock,
Civil Defense

THE CLAPP MEMORIAL LIBRARY

I. FY03 FUNDING

A. Our FY03 basic municipal appropriation came to $264,377. This figure represents a 4.9% increase above the FY02 appropriation ($251,482). The total FY03 figure represents approximately .95% of the entire municipal budget (.92% FY01). The FY01 state average was 1.3%.[1] The FY02 Group 4 average per capita library expenditure equaled $30.20.[2] In FY03 Belchertown (pop. 12,968) the per capita library expenditure equaled but $20.39, or 68% of the State average

B. FY03 State Aid Award Total--$16,113 (10.6% decrease from FY02 $18,034.00.)

C. Total FY03 Available Library Income:

1.	FY03 Municipal Appropriation	$264,377
2.	CML Board of Trustees	15,402
3.	CML Friends of the Library	11,114
4.	State Grants	16,113
5.	LSTA	2,590
	Total FY03 Available Library Income	$309,596

II. FY03 CIRCULATION TOTALS & OUTPUT MEASURES (OPM):

A. Our FY03 circulation, 137,779, represents an annual growth of approximately 5.6%.

FY03 circulation total: 137,779 circ. per capita FY03: Belchertown; 10.6 circ. per capita FY03: Group Avg. unavailable; FY02 circulation total: 130,562 circ. per capita FY02: Belchertown 10.08; circ. per capita FY02 Group Avg. 8.2

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[1] The FY01 Municipal Pie...What's Your Share. (MBLC : Boston) p. 1.

[2] Massachusetts Public Library Data: 2002 Summary Tables and Graphs. (MBLC:Boston) p. 17.

B. Direct Circulation to Patrons

ADULT/YA	CHILDREN	TOTAL
Books, etc. (printed material)		
32,703	37,581	70,284
Periodicals		
3,366	841	4,297
Audio Cassettes		
9,995	818	10,813
Video Cassettes/Discs		
28,941	21,308	50,249
CD ROMs		
503	1,239	1,742

Miscellaneous (combined total): 394

Total Circulation: **137,779**

C. Interlibrary Loans and network transfers FROM other libraries: 6,511 Interlibrary loans and network transfers TO other libraries: 4,140

D. Nonresident Circulation Transactions: 12,239

E. Registered Patrons -- As of June 30, 2003 active patrons numbered 8,824 68% of the total Belchertown population. (FY02 8,153).

F. Patron Visits -- In FY03 an average of 1,704 patrons visited the Library each week for an estimated annual total of 78,764 individual visits to the Clapp Memorial Library. This figure represents 6.07 visits per capita.

G. FY03 Program Attendance:

1. CHILDREN'S PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

Number of Programs:	429
Attendance:	11,900
Hours of Programming:	502.5

2. General Program Attendance

Number of Programs:	22
Attendance:	563
Hours of Programming:	49.5

III. FY03 HOLDINGS INFORMATION (as of June 30, 2003):

A. TOTAL COLLECTION: 22,666 (FY03 net loss = 496 items) 1. 2.1% FY03 reduction.

B. COLLECTION MATERIALS CATEGORIES:

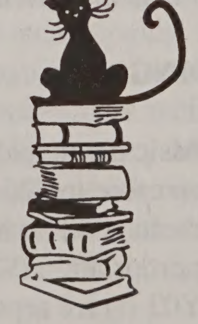
Print Materials

ADULT/YA	CHILDREN	TOTAL
Volumes of books		
9,561	7,865	17,426

Non-Print Materials

ADULT/YA	CHILDREN	TOTAL
Audio, Compact Discs, etc.		
1,347	290	1,637
Video Cassettes/Discs		
1,979	1,253	3,232
CD ROMs		
46	158	204
Miscellaneous & Microforms		
89	78	167

TOTAL **22,666**



CML	[3]Group D Avg.	[4]West. Reg.
ADULT/YA	CHILDREN	TOTAL
FY03 TOTAL COLLECTION		
22,666	58,565	40,332
HOLDINGS PER-CAPITA		
1.8	4.7	7.24

CML Collection is but 39% as large as the average Group D (serving populations 10,000-14,999) library Collection

Print and Non-Print Subscriptions
1. Periodicals, Magazines and Newspapers: 91 (74 General Titles; 13 Juvenile Titles; 4 Newspapers)

IV. HIGHLIGHTS FY03

1. CIRCULATION AND REFERENCE SERVICES:

C/W MARS introduced Patron-Placed Holds during FY03. Patrons can now log onto to C/W MARS Catalog remotely. This contact can be accomplished only through the CML Web Page. With such access patrons can now search the C/W MARS database which includes over 6,000,000 items from 140 libraries to locate desired materials. The patron can then request those item(s) be delivered to the Clapp Memorial Library for convenient pick up.

The C/W MARS Library Network serves the people of Belchertown very well indeed. Patron-Placed Holds and Daily Delivery have given our patrons unprecedented access to materials unavailable locally. As an example, CML received 723 items from other libraries during the month of October 2002. Throughout FY03 6,511 items were borrowed for our patrons from other libraries.

Although the size of the CML collection, at 22,378 items, is woefully inadequate, the materials it includes are contemporary and very popular. This popularity is evidenced not only by the 137,779 items borrowed from our collection by Belchertown residents, but also by the 4,150 items borrowed from the CML by patrons of other libraries through I.L.L. and Patron-Placed Holds.

2. AUTOMATED SERVICES:

Nancy McConnell, Head of Automated Services, developed the CML WEB Site early in FY03. The CML WEB Site is a virtual valet for our patrons. Its format is economically designed and patron-friendly with an efficient layout providing extensive coverage of the services and programs offered to our patrons by the CML. The CML WEB Site gives our patrons access to over 6,000,000 items from 140 libraries through the C/WMARS Online catalog. This CML WEB Site has also contributed to our Outreach efforts enabling the Library to serve even those in our community who are unable to visit the library online and request needed materials. The Library can then deliver these items to your doorstep when asked to do so. It is a tool which has a value and an applicability that will continue to evolve just as will the place of technology in the contemporary public library environment.

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[3] Massachusetts Public Library Data : 2002 Summary Tables And Graphs. MBLC: Boston, p. 22.

[4] Ibid. p. 23.

So too, FY03 saw the Library's WEB Site shift from a commercial host, CCSI of Palmer, to our current municipal host--the Town of Belchertown. This move has several advantages for the Library and its patrons. The most important advantage is patron convenience. It is an intuitive approach for our patrons--the Belchertown WEB Site is exactly where one would expect to find a link to the community's public library. So too, proximity fosters better communication and a more rapid resolution of technical difficulties. Finally, but certainly not least important, is the savings such a shift generated for the Library.

At the close of FY02 our entire Information Technology Network (ITN) was on the brink of obsolescence. Throughout FY03 the Library has invested more than $11,000 of State grant money to upgrade the entire ITN. Today, (February, 2004) after an additional $5,300 investment from the CML Friends of The Library, the hardware of the entire CML ITN meets C/WMARS requirements with Windows 2000 operating systems throughout. Similarly, Netscape Navigator was replaced on every workstation with the Internet Explorer. Security throughout the system was also upgraded. Finally, Envisionware self-scheduling and print-checking software makes the entire system far more patron-friendly.

3. CHILDREN'S SERVICES:

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM ATTENDANCE FY2003:

No. of Programs:	429
Attendance:	11,900
Hours of Programming	502.5

During early FY03 Children's Services responded to a growing community need by developing and offering two additional weekly storytimes to teach and entertain our youngest patrons--infants to 18 month old toddlers. There are now six weekly storytimes for children from birth to 12.

While Belchertown's schools are required to focus on formal writing skills our Children's Services offers several creative writing alternatives in programs for children from 8 to 11 years of age. These programs prepare these children to participate in Claire Baldwin's Young Adult Writing program for children 12 to 17. Again in FY03 a number of the participants in Ms. Baldwin's program won several prose awards.

Teaching children to read, to learn, and to appreciate books and literature are always among the primary goals of Children's Services. The FY03 Summer Reading Program was the most successful to date. More than 600 children participated, and were guided along the way by 49 Junior Volunteers who are Belchertown students from grades 7 to 12. A number of additional book clubs like the Mother/Daughter Book Group, T.A.R.G.E.T. (Teens Reading Group Exploring Together), and the Parent/Son Reading Club were among the range of reading programs offered throughout FY03.

In FY03 the Outreach efforts of Children's Services were most successful. Continuing one of our most important services, the CML once again welcomed Belchertown's 2nd grade students each day during the school year. As they have no school library to call their own more than 200 hundred of Belchertown's 2nd grade students visited the Clapp Memorial Library to satisfy their educational and recreational reading needs.

Our Children's Services outreach efforts also included a number of Library sponsored programs offered at the Belchertown Day School. Those attending the Belchertown Family Center are frequent CML guests. Programs for the Belchertown Community Preschool, for day care providers, and home schoolers are offered here at the Library. Library staff members always participate in the Belchertown's Community Reading day at a number of Belchertown schools. A number of programs are developed by Children's Services specifically for Belchertown's parents. Infant Massage, Safe Children, and Free Parent Counseling are but a few of those offered.

What the Children's Collection lacks in size, it attempts to make up for in quality. During FY03 the Children's Collection saw an increase in popular DVDs and audio books. Another popular new addition is the Early Learning Kits--these are day packs filled with materials in a variety of formats focused upon a single theme or subject.

4. LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION:

The Clapp Memorial Library Board of Trustees was fortunate enough to welcome two new members during FY03. Denise Smith and Knowlton Utley were kind enough to agree to serve. The Board faces a host of challenges not the least of which is to set our course for the successful construction of the new Library addition.

The net result of our FY03 budget negotiations was an increase of 4.9% thereby safeguarding our eligibility for State Grants. While grateful for that modest increase, that increase was not, however, enough to cover even our most basic needs----heat, lights, sewer and water.

The remaining utilities needs were met through the generous support of the Friends of the Clapp Memorial Library with a $6,250 grant. These funds were used for the purchase of Library materials. Subsequently, $6,250 from our municipal materials appropriation was transferred to our Utilities accounts. There yet remained, however, a substantial deficit in the Library's operational budget. A substantial sum was taken from the CML State Grant funds to meet the remaining FY03 CML operational needs.

Once again the Library earned State Certification retaining its eligibility for MEG, LIG and NRC State Grants. The FY03 award amounted to $15,050.00. To meet operational costs not covered by the FY03 CML municipal appropriation it was necessary to expend $11,370 of State grant funds.

Library Director Owen Maloney developed a FY04 Action Plan which was approved by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The goals included therein essentially mirrored those prominent in Planning For Results: The CML Long Range Plan FY00-FY05, with some modifications. The submission of this Action Plan was a prerequisite for eligibility for State and Federal grants. One such grant--the $10,000 LSTA "Mother Goose Asks Why" grant--was awarded to Jennifer Whitehead, Head of Children's Services for FY04.

Governor Romney declared the month of April 2003 Library Awareness Month here in Massachusetts. The CML was one of but 35 public libraries from across the Commonwealth selected by the Mass. Bd. of Library Commissioners to participate in this program. Approximately 20 CML patrons submitted their pictures and a short piece indicating why they come to the CML. These testimonials were then posted on the MBLC WEB site to be read statewide.

CML Library Awareness Month Programming attracted 462 patrons to the following programs:

1. Children's Concert at Old Town Hall
2. Family Concert
3. Jim Lafley--Eagles of the Quabbin
4. Les Campbell & Karl Shanz—Travel the world with Karl Schanz.

5. COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT:

The DVD Collection has grown considerably, and become quite popular during FY03. The DVD has become the preferred entertainment format in the American home. Belchertown's changing demographics has assured the popularity of the new technology in Belchertown. At the close of FY03 our General Video/DVD collection numbered 1,979 featuring primarily VHS. Today that collection numbers 2,074 of which nearly 20% are in the DVD format.

Despite the fact that the CML collection numbers less than half the average size collection of all other Group D (serving 10,000-14,999 pop.), substantial weeding continues. Thousands of library items are discarded each year. This is a necessity due to the lack of stack space capable of supporting a more robust collection. The stacks are full so we must delete one for each one we add.

Ironically, this dilemma becomes more and more thorny each year because our budget increases each year. If we are to safeguard our eligibility for State Certification and thousands of dollars in State Grant finds we must expend 16% of our total budget on materials. Each year we are required to purchase more and more materials, but we have no more room in which to shelve and display them. This purchase one/weed one dilemma then represents a serious problem that will continue to haunt the CML, and subsequently, its patrons until the new library addition is built.

6. PROGRAMMING

Please see the FY03 Children's Services section above for more detail with regard to Children's Services Programming. Yet again Jennifer Whitehead, Head of Children's Services, has met with unmatched programming success. Nearly 12,000 of our friends and neighbors participated in 429 programs that spanned more than 500 hours.

Conversely, General Programming is hampered by a number of circumstances that cannot be adequately compensated for. Undoubtedly, the most crippling circumstance is our lack of space. Because the Library is open on Tuesday through Thursday evenings we are unable to offer programs on those evenings. General programming is limited to Monday and Friday evenings and weekend hours. This off-hours only availability creates both a staff compensation problem and a plant management problem. The staff of the

Clapp Memorial Library is but 82% as large as the average Group D library, and the FY03 municipal appropriation did not include overtime compensation for after-hours staff coverage. Neither was there funding for utilities needed for additional programming.

Nonetheless, while FY03 General Programming was not quite as popular as the Children's Services offerings, it continues to grow and improve. FY03 General Programming included 22 programs attracting 563 patrons and spanned 49.5 hours. This compares well with the FY02 CML General Programming numbers which were not quite as robust with 17 programs being offered over a span of 41 hours and attracting but 255 patrons. The most popular of our FY03 General Programs was Ann Biron's Belchertown Biblioholics Book Discussion Group which meets monthly with between 20 and 25 regularly attending patrons.

Finally, I would be guilty of a great disservice if I did not call your attention to the bi-annual Book and Bake Sales offered by the Friends of the Clapp Memorial Library. Each year these events attract hundreds of Library visitors, and raise thousands of dollars that help support vital library programs and services. The entire Belchertown library community is deeply indebted to the Friends of The Clapp Memorial Library for all that they do for us.

7. STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

There are few fields that are changing as rapidly as that of public library services. Technology continues to evolve with blinding speed providing patron access to more and more information. This explosion of complex library technologies has been paralleled by the greater and greater availability of computers in the home and office creating a host of technologically savvy library patrons. So too, a weak economy brings more and more patrons into the Library where all programs and services are free. This combination of rapid technological advances, limitless information, free services, and the development of more and more technologically sophisticated library patron base has made continuing education an imperative for of today's public library staff member.

During FY03 the staff of the CML attended 68 programs taking advantage of more than 300 hours of continued education and professional development. CML staff members are also contributing members of a number of professional organizations, municipal boards and committees. These positions include:

1. C/W MARS Users Council -- O. Maloney, N. McConnell, A. Biron
2. C/W MARS Personnel Comm.-- O. Maloney
3. WMRLS Exec. Council -- O. Maloney
4. WMCL Exec. Bd.-- O. Maloney and M. Senecal
5. Legislative Breakfast Comm.— O. Maloney
6. Library Director's Roundtable, WMRLS-- O.Maloney

7. Belchertown Dept. Head Council -- O. Maloney
8. Hampshire Educational Collaborative -- J. Whitehead
9. YAs Lead -- J. Whitehead.
10. Belchertown Historical Association Board of Trustees -- O. Maloney
11. Belchertown Family Center -- J. Whitehead

8. OUTREACH:

The CML is a community resource. As such members of its staff must participate in all aspects of community life. The CML staff is not at all inhibited in this regard.

Undoubtedly both our most satisfying, and most important outreach program is our Elementary School Library Visit Program (ESLVP). Every other week throughout the school year Belchertown's 2nd grade students visit the Library borrowing thousands of books to assist them in their studies and provide recreational reading materials. This early exposure to the Library and all of its riches is a powerful catalysts for the lifelong love of books and learning. So too, young library users often grow into adult library supporters.

The parents of those young library users are also likely to support the CML. Such support is sorely needed for the entire range of Library programs and services. The estimated total cost of the Elementary School Library Visit Program alone during FY03 was $9,850.00

The CML declares in its Mission Statement that it "will provide materials and offer services which promote the development of individual learning strengths in our youngest patrons and prepare their parents and teachers to nourish and sustain this development." To satisfy that most important goal the Children's Services is involved in an extensive outreach program in Belchertown's schools, preschools and daycare centers. Jennifer Whitehead and Mary Senecal regularly visit Belchertown's elementary classrooms. Staff members visit the schools each year to participate in the Community Reading Day. Jennifer is also a charter member of the Belchertown Family Center, and maintains close ties with local Daycare Centers inviting them to Daycare Story Hours here at the Library.

In addition, Ms. Whitehead, Head of Children's Services, sits on the Board of the Belchertown Community School and is a member of the Eastern Communities Partnership for Children. Owen Maloney, Library Director, sits on Board of Trustees of the Belchertown Historical Association (Stone House Museum). The Library even has a relationship with the Hampden County House of Correction (HCHC). Twice each year following our book sales the HCHC Librarian, Paul Dimuzio, selects remaining items for the prison's collection.

An additional Outreach overture is our open invitation to teachers and daycare providers to use the Library's Ellison Machine. This is an expensive item that enables teachers and caretakers to produce a wide variety of educational figures and shapes, and an array of decorative icons and images. It has 1,001 educational and entertaining classroom applications, and has consequently become quite popular.

Ann Biron (Circulation & Reference) and Nancy McConnell (Automated Library Services) take the CML outreach services into the very living rooms of our housebound patrons. Each month Ann and Nancy delivered library materials to the homes of those who cannot come to the Library. These library patrons express their sincere gratitude for the kindness shown to them. Both Nancy and Ann assure them that it is the Library who should be thanking them for their continued support.

9. BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

The winter of 02-03 was among the nastiest with near record snowfall and plunging temperatures. This combination wreaked havoc on this 100+ year old facility, and the Library's unfunded utilities budget. The Library roof, repaired in 1996, was ravaged by ice dams and avalanching snow. The first created leaks in sections of the main floor ceiling restroom, and the latter broke off a number of the 100+ year old terra cotta roof tiles.

During the summer of 2002 The Clapp Memorial Library Board of Trustees adopted the Heat Related Library Closure Policy. While this policy had the positive effect of protecting library staff members from heat exhaustion in an library facility lacking air conditioning, the same policy unfortunately restricted patron's access to Library resources.

During May, 2003 the Library bought a pair of air conditioners using State grant funds. One was placed in the Circulation Office, while the second was placed in the Tech Services area which also houses the Head of Children's Services, and her assistant. While patrons and staff must wait for the completion of the new library addition for totally satisfactory solution to this heat dilemma, these ACs provide staff members who must toil in oppressive heat for hours on end a few brief moments in a cool, refreshing environment. Patrons are equally pleased because they once again have unrestricted access and are met by a pleasant and refreshed staff eager to offer patron assistance.

GOALS FOR THE NEAR FUTURE
FY04

In general, FY04 will see the CML continue to implement the programs and services included in the Planning For Results: The CML Long Range Plan 2001-2005. Each of the programs and services provided are based upon the:

CML Mission Statement:

The Clapp Memorial Library is a popular and dynamic community resource which strives to satisfy the need for high quality, comprehensive public library services in areas that are among the most important to the Belchertown community.

The Clapp Memorial Library will provide materials and offer services which promote the development of individual learning strengths in our youngest patrons and prepare their parents and teachers to nourish and sustain this development.

The Clapp Memorial Library will provide an ample collection of topical materials together with a range of reference services selected and designed to meet the general information needs of our patrons.

The Clapp Memorial Library will offer a variety of current, popular materials together with corresponding services specifically selected and designed to satisfy the need for relaxation, recreation and reflection among our patrons.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE GOALS:

The CML Board of Trustees will welcome Greg Galanek to the Board in FY04. Greg is a Certified Public Accountant, and he will help the CML revise its entire bookkeeping procedure. Quickbooks software will be installed, and a catalog of accounts will be developed.

While accurate record keeping has always been our goal, our hopes have sometimes exceeded the capabilities of the system that was in place. General budget oversight and the future fund raising for and financing of the new addition requires, however, a more detailed, fine-tuned bookkeeping procedure.

The Library will develop a Five Year Capital Plan in FY04. Plant maintenance and repair issues must be recognized and prepared for. While we wait to welcome the new addition, some maintenance and repair issues must be dealt with if we are to protect the safety of patrons and staff, and the integrity of the building itself, and its contents. If at all possible, costly repairs to areas certain to be modified by the addition should be avoided.

The Library Director will begin writing the MBLC Library Construction Grant application. While it is unclear when the next grant round will be announced the CML should be prepared to submit that application as quickly as possible.

2. AUTOMATED SERVICES:

For too long the CML ITN has not been the trouble-free, efficient and productive public library service that our patrons have come to expect. In FY04 we will complete the rebuilding of the entire CML ITN that was begun in FY03. By the close of FY04 all of the ITN computer hardware will be replaced with Dell workstations that meet C/W MARS minimum standards. Similar software upgrades capable of satisfying developing patron service demands will also be completed

Complete patron autonomy with regard to the CML ITN is our primary Automated Services goal for FY04. While we will continue to welcome patron inquiry and requests for assistance, it is clear that most patrons prefer an autonomous relationship with the ITN.

In an effort to maintain the technological edge that such acquisitions will produce the Library will complete a Five Year Library Technology Plan in FY04. This plan will provide a blueprint for the timely acquisition of developing technologies needed to satisfy evolving patron service needs.

This is a technologically ambitious, long-term plan. As such it will require an equally ambitious fiscal plan. While municipal support is a prerequisite to the Plan's success, other avenues of support must be developed. Two obvious avenues of such support are the State Grant funds and grants from the Clapp Memorial Library FOL. Unfortunately, those sources are even now taxed to their limits by supporting other equally important library service programs.

3. CIRCULATION & REFERENCE SERVICES:

In collaboration with member libraries C/W MARS will begin patron notification by e-mail. Initially, such notification will include only overdue notices and e-mailed bill notices will be phased in as the year goes on. It is hoped this type of direct, technologically-supported notification will result in materials being returned more quickly, with fewer lost items providing greater access to library materials for all CML patrons. In addition, technologically based notification will save valuable time for an already over-burdened CML staff.

4. PERSONNEL ISSUES:

In FY04 perhaps 4,000 new library materials (books, DVDs, etc.) will be purchased. Each of these items must be pre-evaluated, ordered, converted, processed and shelved before it is of any value to the patron. Due to the lack of shelf space, the CML faces an add one/delete one dilemma with regard to collection development. Consequently, an additional 4,000 items must be weeded, deaccessioned and properly disposed of.

As a result Technical Services now requires considerably more time than the current 10 hours per week dedicated to it by Mary Senecal. My hope is to increase to 25 hours per week the time allotted to Technical Services in FY05. Our focus on Children's Services is, however, a primary element of the mission of the CML. Consequently, the 15 hours per week devoted to the Assistant Children's Librarian position cannot be sacrificed. The FY05 CML budget request will include a request for a replacement for the 15 hours per week Assistant Children's Librarian position.

5. BUILDING & GROUNDS:

The Clapp Memorial Library has proven itself to be a very popular and valuable community resource. So popular, in fact, that the Clapp Memorial Library building itself is no longer capable of meeting the public library needs of a community that is as dynamic as today's Belchertown. A new facility is sorely needed.

We have met with much success in the opening phases of the CML building project. The CML Building Plan was completed by Sondra Vandermark, a Library Service Needs and Building consultant. That document was used by the CML Building Committee and architect J. Steward Roberts while developing plans for the construction of a new library addition. Today we have schematic drawings and a scale model of an approximately 20,000 S.F. addition for the CML

There is, however, much work that remains before that addition becomes reality. Our primary tasks ahead involves generating public support. The people of Belchertown must come to want, and fully support a state-of-the-art facility that can more than adequately meet the vast majority of their public library needs. In an effort to gather such support, the Library must look into every possible source of funding--municipal support, State grant awards, and local fund raising.

The cupola and dormers on the CML roof are in desperate need of painting and repair. Steve Williams, Director of Belchertown DPW, has agreed to share the costs of a bucket truck needed to reach this roof-top structures. The cupola and dormers will be repaired, puttied and repainted. A post-project report will give us direction with regard to future maintenance and repair. One of the oil-burning furnaces is quite old, undoubtedly obsolete, costly inefficient, and perhaps a safety hazard. In FY04, I will have it professionally tested with regard to safety and efficiency. It may need to be replaced.

THE TEAM
The Position Players

Ann Biron, Head of Circulation & Reference Services: Ann Biron is unbelievably productive. Each week during FY03 Ann welcomed more than 1,700 library visitors who borrowed more than 137,000 items from this Library during FY03. Her Reference Department fielded more than 15,000 reference inquiries.

Annual MBLC staff output statistics provide an objective illustration of the exceptional productivity of the entire CML Circulation staff lead by Ann--of the 53 libraries in Group D (serving populations between 10,000 and 14,999) the staff of the Clapp Memorial Library had the 3rd highest efficiency rating with 21,677 items loaned per FTE.

Ann is a pleasure to work with, and is most welcoming and warm with patrons. She gets them what they want when they want it. Ann Biron is the prototypical Circulation/Reference Librarian--conscientious, competent and welcoming. Our patrons are most fortunate to have her assisting them, as am I in having her as a member of my staff.

Jennifer Whitehead, Head of Children's Services: During FY2003 nearly 12,000 of Belchertown's children and their parents participated in the 429 programs offered by Children's Services. What more need I add with regard to Jennifer's efforts and talents. With her energy, enthusiasm, imagination and administrative skills Jennifer has continued to build a more and more varied, more and more popular Children's Services program here at the Library. In her efforts to enhance Children's Services, Jennifer was able to obtain additional funding from the Friends of the Library and a variety of other organizations. FY2003 was the final year of a $10,000, 2-year LSAT grant.

Jennifer is a delight to be around throughout her professional day. Whether engaged with a child, a parent or a colleague, Jennifer is always attentive, ready to assist, and warmly accommodating. Throughout my travels to other Western Massachusetts libraries I have met few children's librarians who are her equal. The children of Belchertown have a great asset in Jennifer Whitehead.

Nancy McConnell, Head of Automated Services: Nancy's ITN responsibilities are fundamentally important to all that we do here at the CML--perhaps the most basic component of Library Service is the simple act of checking out a book to a patron. Today we rely upon our automated network to accomplish that fundamental service activity. Nancy's current skill level enables the Library to maintain a more than adequate level of technical service capabilities. Nancy understands, however, that as the technology becomes ever more complex, that her skills must show parallel development, and continued education is a must.

Nancy has been a member of the Library staff for longer than any of her colleagues. Familiar patrons are now old friends, and because of Nancy's warmth and genuine desire to assist, new patrons feel welcome and comfortable enough to ask for help.

Mary Senecal, Assistant Children's Librarian: The success enjoyed by the entire Children's Services Department during FY03 is indicative of Mary's capabilities in that most demanding patron service realm. Mary has developed several programs for young writers between the ages of 8 and 11. These programs include Create Your Own Adventures Writing Group, Spring Into Poetry and Camp I Wanna Write. Mary is friendly, knowledgeable and engaging, making this program both educational and enjoyable for her young charges.

Mary also provides Technical Services for the CML as our **Cataloging Technician**. Mary has become thoroughly familiar with the C/W MARS GUICAT conversion program. During FY03 Mary converted and deleted nearly 6,500 items to and from the CML Collection. Without her conversion efforts our patrons would be unable to quickly and easily locate the materials which they desire--a fundamental public library patron service.

Tasha Majerowski, Circulation Services Assistant. Tasha served our patrons well during her CML tenure, and was a valued team member. After more than three years of outstanding service Tasha decided to move on pursuing her college education.

Felice Kakley-Lomanno and **Harrison Reed, Library Pages**: Both Pages are juniors at BHS and are quite successful academically. Both are energetic, self-motivated and competent. Neither Felice nor Harrison are reluctant to take the initiative completing that which needs to be done, when it needs to be done, without being asked to do it. They respond well to patron inquiries and staff requests. When needed they are able to provide direct patron service from the Circulation Desk. Their abilities and willingness to help have made this team an invaluable asset to the Clapp Memorial Library and its patrons.

Jacques Benoint, Library Maintenance and Custodial Care: Jacques is both conscientious and more than capable. He is thorough and particular in his custodial duties. He is a craftsman able to effectively deal with all but the most difficult maintenance and repair problems. He has a thorough understanding of the character of the CML building with regard to plant maintenance and repair. With regard to his custodial responsibilities, patrons and staff have commented upon the cleanliness of the entire building, particularly the rest rooms. With Jacques I am completely confident that plant maintenance and repair, together with CML custodial needs, will be dealt with effectively, and in a timely manner. Knowing that Jacques is responsible for maintenance and custodial care enables me to concentrate my efforts in the patron service sphere.

Owen Maloney, Library Director: The Director joined the CML staff more than 14 years ago in March, 1989. His credentials include an MLS from Albany State University, and Certification by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. Before joining the CML staff the Mr. Maloney was employed by the

Frost Library at Amherst College, and the Hatch Library at Bay Path College. While the Library has improved significantly under his leadership, the Director realizes that he has been fortunate enough to have had the full support of the CML Board of Trustees, of the entire Library staff, and that of Belchertown's municipal officers. Undoubtedly, however, his greatest ally has been the entire Belchertown Community which has given Mr. Maloney its full and enthusiastic support.

THE TEAM

Support Positions

It has only been through the extraordinary efforts of those indicated below that the Clapp Memorial Library has been so successful in meeting the public library needs of our Belchertown community in FY03.

The Entire Belchertown Community: Particularly those who visit the Clapp Memorial Library regularly.

Volunteers: Sheila Brennan, Mauri Korhunen, Debra Geoffrey, Jane Crutchfield, and the entire Friends of the Library group. There are simply far too many who have shared their time and effort with the CML during FY03 for each to be individually recognized here. Their efforts are, nonetheless, acknowledged and greatly appreciated.

Municipal Officers: The Belchertown Board of Selectmen; Gary Brougham, Town Administrator; The Belchertown Finance Committee; Jill Besancon, Town Accountant; Steve Williams, Director of DPW; and Stephen Malandrinos, Belchertown Computing Department.

Trustees: Stephen Lanphear, President; Joanne Newman; Denise Smith; Wendy Story; Knowlton Utley.

Trustees Emeritus: George Bach, Joanne Bach, Thomas Fuller, Patricia Fuller and Virginia Hislop.

Respectfully submitted,
Owen Maloney, Library Director

COMPUTING DEPARTMENT

The scope of our responsibilities in the MIS Department continues to grow. In previous years, the majority of our work was performed in Town Hall. Our primary function was to support the users and networks that reside at 2 Jabish Street. As the months went by and our client base outside Town Hall continued to grow, we found ourselves spending an increasing portion of our time supporting users and newly implemented networks at other departments and schools around town. At this point, a majority of our time is spent servicing our users in buildings other than Town Hall.

Recent additions to our fiber-optic Municipal Area Network are Chestnut Hill Community School and Cold Spring School, bringing our total number of remote locations to 13. Plans are also underway for a computer network at Jabish Brook Middle School, to be implemented for the coming school year.

In the last year we have made many improvements to increase the efficiency and productivity of the Town. We have implemented a new connection to the 911 system that better integrates police dispatch and incoming 911 calls reducing both data entry and chance of error in dispatching.

We have brought our GIS, or Graphical Information System, on-line and accessible from the World Wide Web. This gives access to this powerful tool to anyone who needs it, without the added cost of additional software licenses or time to install or configure them. Additionally, in the future we can choose to make this data available to anyone with an Internet connection and standard web browser.

In an effort to standardize and simplify our own administrative responsibilities, and to reduce the possibility of data loss, we have implemented a new backup routine that will allow us to recover more fully and quickly in the event of a disaster. We have also brought on-line a new helpdesk website that will help us to prioritize problems and ensure that everyone's computer related problems get solved in a timely fashion.

We have completed taking over support functions for the School Department, which was formerly serviced by an outside company. Due to our proximity and intimate involvement in the rest of the Town's Information Technology projects, it is our belief that we can more efficiently and effectively fulfill the needs of this important organization.

As with every other department in town and government organizations across the country, we are facing financial challenges. Despite budget cuts and limited funds we have maintained growth and improvement in our systems, and will continue to do so in the coming months and years. It is our belief that our efforts and investments have helped to improve and will continue to advance our organization toward more efficient and effective service to the residents and businesses of Belchertown.

The purpose of any MIS department is to increase productivity through the managed use of technology. With that goal in mind we shall continue our efforts to help the Town of Belchertown serve it's residents and businesses as best it can.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Malandrinos, Director
Computing Department

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Belchertown Conservation Commission held 90 hearings under the Wetlands Protection Act; 31 of these were Requests for Determination and 48 were Notices of Intent; five were for permit extensions; three for Amend Orders of Conditions; one for an Administrative Hearing to deal with an outstanding enforcement issue, and two hearings for Abbreviated Notices for Resource Area Delineations. The Commission issued three Emergency Certificates, for the protection of public health and safety. The Commission also reviewed and commented on all septic system installation permits, site plan reviews, subdivision applications, ANR plans, and Chapter 61, 61A and 61B withdrawal requests. In addition, the Commission also reviewed the applications for all forest cutting plans and the Yearly Operational Plans for the vegetation management for the Massachusetts Electric Company and the New England Central Railroad Company.

The Commission has conducted numerous site visits to monitor on going projects throughout the year. There are many subdivisions currently under construction and extensive site visits have occurred to monitor these projects. In addition, the Commission is continuing to monitor the progress of the Cold Spring Golf Course, to ensure that the area remains stable. The Commission has dealt with numerous enforcement issues and has issued four Enforcement Orders. Some enforcement matters have been outstanding for some time and the Commission has been concentrating their efforts to bring these projects back into compliance. The Commission is also working on our current Wetland Regulations, their review and update in the future. The Commission has also reviewed the application and conducted numerous site visits, regarding the Notice of Intent filed by the Tri-lake Watershed Association for the herbicide treatment of Holland Pond, to control invasive, non-native aquatic plant species.

The year 2003 has been a very busy and productive year for both the Town and the Conservation Commission. The Commission has worked very closely with Town officials on numerous and extensive projects. The Conservation Commission has been actively involved in the preparation of the Town Center Plan, presented by Land Use, Inc. The purpose of the 2003 Town Center Plan is to move ahead with the implementation of the 2002 Community Plan. The Commission is specifically reviewing and commenting on any future use of the Piper Farm property, to ensure the protection and conservation of the extensive Natural Resource Areas located on this parcel.

Jabish Brook Conservation Area

Photo Credit: LeeAnne Connolly

In the area of conservation land management and open space planning, the Conservation Commission has completed and revised our Open Space and Recreation Plan. The 2002 Belchertown Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) update is a statement of the current priorities of Belchertown's Town boards, officials, and citizens for natural resource protection and recreation. The purpose of this plan is to revise the original 1986 OSRP plan - to update the 1995 OSRP and reassess the open space, recreation, and natural resource protection needs and priorities for the next five years (2002-2007), to carry Belchertown well into the 21st century. In addition, the Belchertown's Wetlands Map has also been updated and the new 2004 Town Assessor's maps will reflect the new Resource Area delineations.

In January of this year, the Commission regretfully accepted the resignation of Conservation Commissioner Paul Eurkus, after providing over seven years of service to the Town. Bruce Tolpa, an existing Associate Commission member was appointed to fill the vacant Commissioner position. In addition, Donna Lusignan has been hired to fill the vacant office clerk position. On July 12, 2003, the Commission sponsored a nature walk at the Jabish Brook Conservation Area. This event was attended by numerous residents and was also broadcast by Channel Five. The Commission also co-sponsored the Wildlife Trackers presentation, on November 12, 2003. Approximately 100 residents attended this slide show presentation.

The Commission is anxious to begin new projects for the year 2004 and feels confident that the environment is favorable, within the local community, to protect even more valuable resource areas and open space within the Town. Collaborative efforts by Town departments, non-profit land trusts, state agencies and private landowners only strengthen the chances for successful open space protection within the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Rizzo, Chairman
David Haines, Vice Chairman
Joseph Babineau, Commissioner
Bruce Tolpa, Commissioner
Edward Knight, Commissioner
Alan Gallant, Commissioner
Jon Clements, Commissioner
Patrick Lund, Associate Commissioner
Kurt Nelson, Associate Commissioner
LeeAnne Connolly, Administrator

COUNCIL ON AGING/SENIOR CENTER

The Council on Aging is a town appointed advisory board. Current members include: Marian Panto, Chair; Doris Dickinson, Vice Chair; Dr. James Collard, Secretary; Charlene Forgue, Mildred Christensen, Sally Dodge, Josephine Fitzgerald, Daniel Fitzpatrick, William Kimball, and Joan Poole.

Founded in 1973, the Belchertown Council on Aging provides a range of social, health, nutritional, transportation and advocacy services to the senior population in the greater Belchertown Area. The majority of these services are provided through the Senior Center, which is located in the Whitlock Municipal Complex at 60 State Street, (Route 202). An Executive Director manages day-to-day operations.

The Council on Aging is a busy and vital organization providing services not only to seniors but families in town. The Senior Center building includes a fully equipped kitchen and dining area, which provides both Congregate meals and Meals on Wheels to seniors in the community. We also offer a Supportive Day Care Program, and an array of recreational, health, educational, and social service programs available to seniors ages 60 and older. The Senior Center building also provides the Town of Belchertown a back up shelter for use in the event of a community emergency.

Outreach efforts, as well as Social Services remain a major unseen facet of the Council on Aging. Privacy and Confidentiality is our mandate in these areas. As a result, many in the community are unaware of the wealth of information, services, programs and referrals available through the Outreach/Social Service Coordinator. We have now added a direct line to Social Services (323-0675). Advocacy for our current and ever growing elder population is also a major focus of this department. Some of the areas where individuals may need assistance include obtaining appropriate insurance, prescription coverage/options, homecare providers, housing, transportation, access to and information regarding State and Federal programs, nutritional, personal and home safety issues. Coordination with community based agencies such as WestMass ElderCare, Greater Springfield Senior Services, VNA, Franklin Community Action as well as partnerships with Police, Fire, EMS, churches, private and non-profit agencies and local businesses continues to grow. The need for creative ways to service our increasing senior population remains a top priority as we face fiscally troubling times.

This past year we have added a Companion/Errand program, which has been providing a number of our seniors with a companion to accompany them to physician & dental visits, medical tests, food shopping, banking, the post office and other visits. Those they serve depend on them for something many of us who drive take for granted, a means to get from one place to another without being charged for each trip. So many of our seniors are at the mercy of rural transportation services once they do not drive. This becomes very costly for our seniors on a fixed income to book four rides, each with a cost, just to go to the bank, post office, pharmacy and food shopping. Our companions don't just provide transportation they go along with the senior on these errands. This program is currently funded by a Federal Title IIIE Caregiver Assistance grant through WestMass ElderCare, our local Aging Service Access Point.

Our Title IIIC Nutrition Program provides on site hot lunches, as well as home delivered meals to seniors unable to leave their homes. Nutritiously balanced hot meals are cooked on site and served in our dining room Monday through Friday. Live music or a guest speaker often accompanies meal site lunches. Holiday, special ethnic, and birthday celebrations are common luncheon themes through out the year. During the FY03 period, area seniors enjoyed in excess of 10,000 meals in the relaxed and lighthearted atmosphere with the good company of others. Our Home Delivered Meal Program served 30,000 meals this past year. Meals are prepared on site and delivered hot 7 days a week, 363 days a year to the most fragile and needy of elders. This program also provides the necessary safety and wellness checks from the daily contact of the home delivered meals driver for homebound elders. The Elder Nutrition Program is supported through a combination of town funding, grant money, participant donations, private fundraising and donations, and state home care reimbursements, and USDA cash supplements and commodities.

The Adult Social Day Program is a staff supervised activities, exercise and companionship program specially designed for elders who should not or do not wish to stay home alone during the day. Staff and peer support is provided for those who are isolated, confused, suffering personal loss, recovering from illness or injury or who have certain physical restrictions because of age related disabilities. One of its goals is to help support caregivers. This is a therapeutic program, which benefits the participants as well as the participant's family and/or caregivers.

During FY03, our handicapped accessible van transported over 130 different seniors on over 3000 individual trips. The transportation provided under this program is vital to the continued physical and emotional well-being of our participants in helping to reduce isolation, and to insure medical care. Seniors have also enjoyed a variety of activities including shopping, social and recreational activities and much more. Rides are still offered for general shopping and doctor appointments as scheduling allows. Belchertown seniors who participate in the Supportive Day Care Program at the Center also receive transportation. The Director was able to secure a grant through the Department of Construction and Transportation, which allowed us to replace our former van. The grant provided $30,000 towards the purchase. Our fundraising group, the Belchertown Senior Center Citizen's Association provided the remaining $9,000 for a total savings of close to $40,000 for the town and its taxpayers.

Our regular weekly and monthly programs and activities include a walking club, exercise classes, line dancing, senior chorus, computer class, sign language instruction, monthly theme socials, bingo, a variety of card games, painting and craft groups, scrap booking group, a senior band and sing-a-long. We now have a pool table and instructional classes, and an exercise room, which includes several stationary bikes and a treadmill. Short-term instructional opportunities have included quilting classes, flower arranging, seasonal decorations, and several cooking classes. We also have a Koffee Korner get together three mornings a week, day trips, and a travel club operated by our Senior Center Citizens Association. We hope to add strength training and Yoga classes in the coming year.

We have continued our intergenerational programs involving our seniors and school age children. These include a "Caring and Sharing" program, foster grandparents, and community service opportunities for older students. We have worked with several Boy Scout Groups and the local 4 H club on several projects and have a collaborative project to help design, build and maintain a nature habitat planned for the spring. This has been a rewarding experience for all involved.

We continue to develop collaborative programs with a variety of outside groups, organizational, and individuals. AARP provides a tax preparation for seniors from February through April. The Food Bank of Western MA provides a monthly food distribution program. A "Speakers" program including a continental breakfast has allowed our seniors to explore such topics as tax and estate planning issues, retirement and long-term care planning, and a variety of other financial and legal issues. The Alzheimer's Association has continued to offer programs at the Senior Center for Caregivers. We have continued our collaboration with the UMASS nursing program, which has afforded our seniors the opportunity to receive individual attention resulting in a personalized plan to deal with a variety of health issues.

The past two Christmas Seasons we have been involved with several community churches and organizations to provide gifts and much needed gift certificates from local businesses to seniors who are alone or in need. The seniors involved have been deeply touched by the generosity of our community.

We offer a variety of monthly educational and informational programs. In addition, we offer monthly health screenings for blood pressure, blood sugar, hearing loss and a yearly flu shot clinic, which serves over 200 seniors. We offer a stroke support group and a TOPS program for those with weight concerns. We also continue community involvement with nighttime dinners, which are open to the entire community and yearly participation in the Belchertown Fair and parade.

The SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) Council & TRIAD continues addressing issues of health and safety in the community. The Belchertown SALT Council is one of many in Hampshire County supporting this project. We have had monthly visits from the Belchertown Police providing information on a variety of topics. Our TRIAD group has continued its project of providing identifying reflective house numbers to community residents. These numbers assist the Police, EMS, and Fire Departments in finding your home.

Volunteers continue to remain a major asset to the Senior Center. Regular volunteers range from as young as 12 years old to individuals in their 80's. Last year, over 100 people were recognized for their service to seniors. Over 10,000 hours of service were donated at a savings of $120,000.

There are gaps in services for seniors and their families. In home respite care and other in home services are lacking or too expensive for seniors who do not meet state income guidelines. We document these needs and seek grants and other funding sources to help fund service programs. There is also a need for additional staff in the Social Service Department. This one-person department cannot keep up with the requests for services. Belchertown may appear to be a middle class community on the surface. However we see that increasing property taxes, prescription drug costs, and the high costs of in home services leave many seniors in our community facing decisions to choose between heat, food, and medicine. We attempt to help them find resources to meet these needs, but too many times there is no answer to their problems or way to meet their needs.

The Belchertown Council on Aging and the services that the organization provides would not be possible without the support of the local town citizens, volunteers, grants, state and local town government. For all this support, a most generous thank you is to be given.

CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Belchertown Cultural Council has the following eight members:

Chair: Ljuba Marsh
Secretary: Mary Ellen Miller
Treasurer: Katie Fitzgerald
Members: Joyce Harper
Melanie Lewis
Arose Nielsen
Martina Robinson

This year we added one new member: Joyce Harper, a writer and translator.

This year we received $2,690.00 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council to use for administrative expenses and grants for programs in the arts, sciences and humanities.

Prior to our review of applications, we conducted a survey of Belchertown residents to determine desired activities. We placed surveys in the Belchertown Sentinel, at the Clapp Memorial Library, The Belchertown Copy Store, The Spa, and handed them out at the Belchertown Fair. The responses we received were consistent in requests for musical concerts, historical events and nature programs. We used this information during our selection process.

We reviewed 28 grant requests. 17 grant applications did not follow our posted initial requirements and were rejected. We prioritized grants that would take place at a Belchertown site, meet the identified needs, and engage the largest number of residents. We selected the following six grants:

1. Family Fun Night/Clapp Memorial Library/Belchertown Family Center: $225.00
2. Living History Day at the Stone House Museum/ Belchertown Historical Assoc.: $500.00
3. Music to Touch the Heart/Moonlight and Morning Star Belchertown Senior Center: $500.00
4. Teens Writing in Belchertown/Claire Baldwin-Clapp Library/Belchertown Schools: $600.00
5. Loving Languages/Lisa Gariepy Aiken-Clapp Library: $500.00
6. Celebrating New England/Davis Bates-Belchertown Senior Center: $231.00

We held $134.00 for administrative expenses.

LCC Grant Funds:	$2690.00
Selected Grants (6)	$2556.00
Administrative Funds	$ 134.00
Total:	$2690.00

This year we met at least once a month. We continue to examine ways to enhance the arts, humanities and science programs in Belchertown.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION

The Belchertown Economic Development Industrial Corporation (BEDIC) was formed by Town Meeting vote in 1992. Seven members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen with staggered three-year terms. Formed under Mass. General Law Chapter 121C, the BEDIC's mission is to develop and implement a Town Meeting approved economic development plant on the former Belchertown State School property.

The Tighe and Bond plans to improve the road from State Street to Jackson Street in two phases was approved by the Planning Board on June 23, 2003. The Town's request that the road be designed to accommodate traffic for an alternative route bypassing the Town Center and a 12" gravity feed main sewer line were included in the design. The road improvements will be done as the proceeds from sales become available. Almost 1,000 linear feet of improved road will be completed by third quarter 2004.

The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA), as the preferred developer for Parcel D, continues to try to secure federal planning money. With a commitment for funds, the PVTA will issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to select a consultant to plan the installation of an Inter Model Transportation Center (bus terminal) in conjunction with the Courthouse.

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) identified necessary enabling legislation that will allow the BEDIC to apply for grants that can be used to construct roads and infrastructure. The Belchertown Board of Selectmen voted to support the effort on December 15, 2003.

With the Town non-binding vote on assisted living and age-restricted 55 years or older condominiums approved, the Committee on Assisted Living of the Council on Aging and the BEDIC have been working with the preferred developer, Baran Partners, to finalize plans that must be certified by the Planning Board to the Commonwealth.

In addition, discussions are in progress at various stages with a number of other potential purchasers of lots on the former State School property.

Respectfully Submitted:

Directors:
William Terry, Vice-Chairman
Lloyd Chadbourne, Jr.
Daniel Fitzpatrick
Peter Galuszka
Loy Harris
Kirk Stephens
Richard Steiner

Associate Directors:
Scott Allen
Paul Anziano
David Marley
Elizabeth Taras

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Town of Belchertown Department of Emergency Medical Services Provides Emergency Medical Services to the residents and visitors of Belchertown 24-hours a day from our location at 9 East Walnut Street.

The Belchertown EMS Department operates on a set budget from the Town of Belchertown with revenue generated by transports being placed in an ambulance account reserved for appropriations.

The goal of this Department for many years has been to upgrade to the paramedic level. As of September 1, 2003, after reviewing the Operational policies and credentials of our employees, The Massachusetts Department of Public Health Office of Emergency Medical Services granted Belchertown EMS a license to operate all three of our ambulances at the Paramedic Level. With this authorization we are able to provide the highest level of prehospital care available.

At the request of Chief Francis Fox and as a result of upgrading to the paramedic level in September, we were able to not only transfer three of our semi-automatic cardiac defibrillators (SAED) to the Belchertown Police Department but provided the entire Police Department with the training to use this vital equipment. In the first three months of providing these services our two departments have used this equipment to successfully resuscitate two patients.

With the recent ruling by the federal government in regards to protected health information and privacy practices EMT Intermediate Judi Searle has become the Department's privacy compliance officer. These duties include not only daily responsibilities on the Department's ambulance but training every employee on the privacy policies and processing requests for protected health information and records.

In April 2003 EMT Paramedic Craig Bodamer was hired as the Department's ALS Coordinator, his duties include working regular scheduled shifts as a paramedic on the ambulance, stocking and inventorying paramedic level medications and oversight of all advanced life support level operations.

With an additional staff of part-time and paid-call Basic, Intermediate and Paramedic level Emergency Medical Technicians, the service responded to just fewer than 1200 calls in 2003.

Belchertown EMS provides and receives mutual-aid services to the towns of Amherst, Ware, Palmer and Ludlow. Anytime an ambulance service is unable to cover an emergency ambulance call they request mutual-aid from the closest available ambulance service.

We provide services with 4 vehicles:

Unit 45-A1 Our front line ambulance is a 2000 Ford E-450 manufactured by American Emergency Vehicles.

Unit 45-A2 Our back up ambulance is a 1996 E-350 manufactured by Marque Inc.

Unit 45-R4 this unit is a fully stocked 4-wheel drive ambulance with the ability to treat and transport a patient if needed. This unit was placed into service in July 2002 as a Licensed Class 5 ALS level Ambulance. This unit is a 1984 (former military) Chevy blazer and is used to gain access into off road areas and during inclement weather as an ALS/BLS response vehicle.

Unit 45-C15 The fourth vehicle, a 1996 Ford Crown Victoria is used as an administrative vehicle and a rapid response vehicle when additional assistance is needed during an emergency

Belchertown EMS is a certified training center for the **AMERICAN SAFETY & HEALTH INSTITUTE** and is a certified training site for the **AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION.**

The EMT's from Belchertown EMS have provided the following training courses to the community in 2003.

- Basic First-Aid
- CPR-for friends and family
- CPR for the Community & Workplace
- CPR- for professional rescuer
- Heart saver AED
- First Responder

This year's departmental training consisted of:

- Privacy Practices
- Protected Health Information
- Intermediate refresher
- Advanced airway adjuncts
- EMS State Treatment Protocols (update)
- CPR for Professional Rescuer
- Cardiac Defibrillation (AED)
- Life flight Responses
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support
- 12 Lead EKG
- Physician Rounds/ Medical Control
- End Tidal Capnography
- Paramedic Assistant

Belchertown Emergency Medical Services is committed to providing the best patient care possible. With the tremendous amount of support and input we continue to receive from not only the residents of this community but the other town departments; we will continue to provide the best care possible to our patients while increasing our level of prehospital training.

Director of EMS

Steven A. Syriac	EMT Intermediate

ALS Coordinator

Craig Bodamer	EMT Paramedic
Appointed 4/22/03	

Privacy Officer

Judi Searle	EMT Intermediate

Part-Time

Mark Brouillette	EMT Basic
John E. Hawley	EMT Intermediate

Call EMT's

Bruce Jenks	EMT Basic
Randy Barns	EMT Basic
Ryan Humason	EMT Basic
Wes Stevenson	EMT Basic
Thomas Majerowski	EMT Basic
Kristina Mitchell	EMT Basic
David Conkey	EMT Intermediate
Brina Fondi	EMT Paramedic
Jaime Lubelczyk	EMT Paramedic
Jonathan Smith	EMT Paramedic
Stephen Kavanagh	EMT Paramedic
Richard Blomstrom	EMT Paramedic
Wardwell Cox	EMT Paramedic
Edward Dalbec	EMT Paramedic

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven A. Syriac, Paramedic
Director of Emergency Medical Services

* * *

BELCHERTOWN FAIR AND PARADE COMMITTEE

The theme of the 146th Fair of TV Land was a smashing success. The format remained the same with Friday evening being very busy as a result of great entertainment and wristband night. Belchertown High School offered an outstanding concert on the Library Lawn just prior to the parade stepping off at 10 AM. Local organizations took full advantage presenting many great ideas and crowd pleasers in both the parade and decorated booth contest. The Parade Judges Award for the best presentation of the theme went to Footloose School of Dance. This year there were 54 separate entries plus the ever-popular Shriners group. The Belchertown Red Hatters Club made its first appearance receiving applause along the route. Parade watchers enjoyed the hats as much as the spirit portrayed by this group.

The remainder of Saturday was busy through out the Common with old and new activities. The most important activity is not on the schedule as friends meet and greet each other, taking this annual opportunity to catch up. When the sun rose on Sunday it was a different fair grounds. Rain forecast for the day was on schedule. The faithful attended church service under the Social Tent. The oxen came and stood ready to show us what they could do. Die-hard fair enthusiasts clad in raincoats and trash bags roamed the common. By noon the oxen were sent home and some vendors began breaking down. Faithful volunteers came out to assist with as much pick up as possible. The tents did not come down that night. In fact, it was more than a week later before there was sufficient dry weather to pack and store them for the winter.

As always, we need to thank everyone who helps make this event a success. The Committee itself is a small but dedicated group of volunteers that shepherd the thousands of hours of work. However there are an ever-increasing group of volunteers who have come forward to help with one or many aspects of the event. Without each and every one of you, it would be impossible to do this year after year. Thank you to Gary Brougham, Steve Williams, Chief Bock, Chief Fox, and Judy Metcalf and their respective Departments. Your support is never ending and helps ensure a safe family event.

Although this event occurs in the fall, the preparation is year round. We continually look for new ideas and new volunteers. This is a great way to meet other Belchertownians and have a lot of fun. If you have a little time, we have something for you to do as we work towards the 147th Belchertown Fair.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Brown, Chairperson
Belchertown Fair and Parade Committee

BELCHERTOWN FAMILY CENTER COMMITTEE

The Belchertown Family Center (BFC) is a valuable community service and resource for families with infants and children up to age 6. The BFC is committed to providing the community with early childhood enrichment in an environment that allows children to develop socially, emotionally, intellectually, and physically through various learning activities and play. The Center is committed to supporting, teaching, and modeling good parenting skills and offers early intervention programs and community outreach services. The BFC currently offers three weekly play sessions for families and caregivers to drop in and enjoy a safe, fun-filled environment to play, interact, participate in arts and craft activities, and learn. The Center also generates an informative monthly newsletter, which is distributed to over 200 area families. The newsletter contains information on upcoming events, craft and healthy snack ideas, birth notices, positive parenting pointers, and a family health column contributed by Amherst Family Practice. In addition, in the epitome of "small town" neighborly ways, whenever a BFC participant gives birth to a new child, other center participants sign up to deliver complete home-cooked meals to the new parents for as long as two weeks.

The BFC is primarily a volunteer-run organization. The only paid position is a part-time facilitator, whose primary responsibility is to facilitate weekly play sessions. The BFC obtains operating funds from three primary sources: a small grant administered by the Hampshire Educational Collaborative, a utility budget from the Town of Belchertown, and multiple fundraisers held throughout the year. Approximately 1,400 volunteer hours are donated yearly to the BFC in the form of coordination of day-to-day operations, special events planning and implementation, fundraising, and early intervention/position parenting programming. All of the volunteers are parents or caregivers with children age 6 and under. Many of the parents and caregivers also work outside the home.

The BFC continues to see a huge increase in participation. Currently approximately 200 families participate in weekly play sessions and special events. Participating families offer a diverse mix of socio-economic backgrounds that come together for the sake of children, family, and community. Some are longtime Belchertown residents who have just begun their families. Others are new to the area and are looking for a way to integrate into the community. Although the BFC requests a fee of $3.00 per visit or $40.00 per semester for unlimited visits, the Center is open to all regardless of ability to pay.

In the past twelve months, the BFC has hosted and/or sponsored the following events: the annual Easter Egg Hunt, a Read to Me workshop, a Halloween party, a Thanksgiving potluck with a children's puppeteer, a holiday party with Santa and a book exchange, a family fun night with a children's storyteller, a holiday craft day for children to make their own gifts, the annual ice cream social with entertainment by Donna Lee, a family potluck at Look Park, infant massage classes, and Zoo on the Go by Forest Park. The Center also hosted field trips to Dickinson's Farm, the Holyoke Children's Museum, the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, the Hitchcock Center for the Environment, Kidsports, and Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory. The Center also participated in the Belchertown Fair by providing a baby changing/feeding station as a community service.

Currently the BFC is working closely with the Clapp Memorial Library to obtain grants for a movement series and a cultural entertainment program. Additionally, the Center is trying to raise funds to erect play structures for children ages one through six. Belchertown does not have any playgrounds designed for this age group, and many families are forced to travel to other communities to find appropriate play structures. The BFC feels this project will greatly benefit the children in the community.

The BFC wishes to than the community of Belchertown for its continued support.

Sincerely,
The Belchertown Family Center Town Committee:
Angie Tauer
Richard Poissant
Katherine Atkinson, M.D.
Lucy Klein
Denise Daly

The Belchertown Family Center Volunteer Parent Advisory Board FY 2004:
Maureen Benway, Co-Chairperson
Stacy Troy, Co-Chairperson
Jodi Standrowicz, Secretary
Laurie Shea, Treasurer, Enrollments
Bobbi Domnarski, Social Services
Danielle Perry, Grant Writing
Angie Tauer, Public Relations
Tammy Dennehy, Fundraising
Wendy Laramee, Newsletter Editor
Melissa Buxton, New Baby Welcome
Denise Daly, New Member Welcome

Belchertown Family Center
Income Statement for the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2003

Revenues	Amount	%	Description
Participant Dues	3,247.00	14.85	Fees paid by participants at the regular weekly playgroups
Fundraising	3,946.65	18.05	Total revenues received from all fundraising events
Private Donations	2,784.09	12.73	Unrestricted actual par funds donated by private business and/or persons
Grants	10,099.37	46.18	Use of funds is designated to offset portions of approved programming and facilitator fees
Electric Budget	845.72	3.86	Amount to date of the allotted town budget - balance remaining through 6/30/04, 354.28
Heating Oil Budget	433.01	1.98	Amount to date of the allotted town budget - balance remaining through 6/30/04, 1,066.99
Water Budget	74.80	0.31	Amount to date of the allotted town budget - balance remaining through 6/30/04, 75.20
Sewer Budget	162.98	3.80	Amount to date of the allotted town budget - balance remaining through 6/30/04, 12.98
Space Rental Fee	20.00	0.08	Rent received from 4-H club for 4 meetings
Interest Income	75.95	0.34	Interest paid on "Set Aside" funds designated for specific projects (see below)
Security Deposit Refund	180.74	0.82	Return of a security deposit previously paid to Mass Electric
Total Revenues	**21,870.31**	100.00	
Cost of Operations			
Arts & Crafts Supplies	15.12	0.07	Supplies for regular weekly playgroups – Note: Many supplies are directly donated by participants
Snacks and Perishables	243.25	1.11	Snacks served at the weekly playgroups – Note: Many snacks are directly donated by participants
Events / Programs	3,826.93	17.50	Space rental, entertainment, program facilitator fee, event-specific craft supplies, perishables, etc.
Facilitator Fee	5,038.50	23.04	Fees paid to facilitator
Fundraising	1,080.92	4.94	Costs associated directly with fundraising events
Small Toys & Equipment	75.24	0.34	Swings, batteries, purchase or replacement of toys
Total Cost of Operations	**10,279.96**	47.00	
Gross Revenues	**11,590.35**	53.00	
Expenses			
Supplies / Office Expense	157.33	0.72	Copy paper, ink, pens, etc.
Telephone	332.28	1.52	Telephone located at the BFC, 283-7594
Postage	16.78	0.08	Miscellaneous mailing expense
Equipment Rental	24.00	0.11	Post office box rental
Publications and Printing	453.96	2.08	Monthly newsletter (printing & postage), brochures, member registration cards
Meetings Expense	10.00	0.05	Child care at the planning meetings
Electric	1,806.01	8.20	Budget estimate, $1,200.00 – Over by $606.01
Heating Oil	1,433.01	6.58	$1,000 pp for fuel in 09/02 used 01/03+ - budget estimate $1,500.00 under budget by (66.99)
Water	209.69	0.98	Payment of 5 qtrs.- Based on 4 qtrs. estimated budget of $150.00 over by $22.29
Sewer	306.98	1.40	Payment of 5 qtrs.- Based on 4 qtrs. estimated budget of $150.00 over by $75.49
Total Expense	**4,750.04**	21.72	
Funds Set Aside for Specific Projects			
Playground Equipment	4,253.00		Purchase and erect play structure for ages 1 through 6 (goal $18,000)
Not-for-Profit Status	2,587.31		To incorporate as a not-for-profit entity & to obtain a government-approved not-for-profit certificate
Total Set Aside Revenues	**6,840.31**	31.28	
Net Revenues (Loss)	**0.00**		

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department has had another successful year. Our commitment towards life safety and property conservation is our primary dedication to the community. This is accomplished through efforts of the firefighters, their families, our Town Officials and the great-continued support we receive from the citizens of Belchertown.

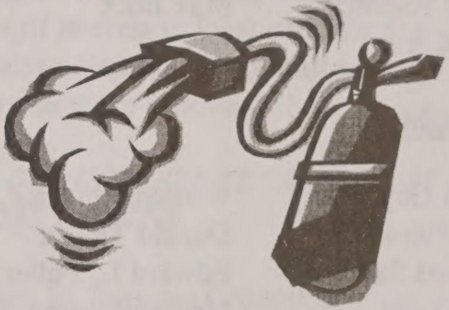
Through the firefighters' commitment of raising funds, and the continuing generous support of the citizens, the Fire Department benefited by purchasing a new Ford Super Duty 550 to replace an outdated Forestry Truck.

The dedicated men and women that provide the quality and professionalism that the Town relies on in their Fire Department continue to train weekly on new technology and advance training practices.

The vast amount of development along with our increased population and the large geographical area that we cover has continued to hamper our response times to incidents. As for a volunteer department our response times to an emergency call would be considered reasonable for this type department; however, a Nationally recognized response standard would deem this unacceptable. Our firefighters are quality trained and experienced, the Department only lacks a quicker response time from inadequate full-time staffing. Full-time firefighters would not replace the existing call/volunteer department, but would add to the benefits of combining resources to give the citizens that quicker response which could be that key factor between life, death, and property conservation.

The Fire Department continues networking with the Ambulance Department to achieve the goal of building a stronger tie and understanding. This beneficial to all we serve.

Fire Prevention and Education activities still continue to increase with little relief. The increase of home construction, commercial sites, and many new proposals create inspection demands and added services that overburden this department's full-time staff. More full-time staff is needed and must be considered in the near future.



The Student Awareness Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) program was continued within the school district. With the ongoing support from the School Committee, the teachers, and the firefighters have made this program a real success story.

It is very rewarding to recognize the commitment the Citizens make to this department, and the benefits that the Fire Department can provide back to the community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Edward F. Bock, Fire Chief

Members of the Belchertown Fire Department

Chief Fire Inspector

Capt. John Workman

Deputy Chiefs

Hugh Hubbard
James Hodgen

Captains

Timothy Lofland
Bruce Officer
Richard McGinnis
Robert Hodgen

Lieutenants

Edward D. Fuller
David Auchter
Tom Cooke
Ronald Beaver
Max Bock

Firefighters

David Gay
Paul Tierney
Micheal Samson
Ted Covill
Paul Salvatore
Darryn Beaudry
Paul Greene
Leonard Boisjolie
Jeff Scott
Matthew Gemme
John Racine
Herbert Wood
Patience Monty
Gilbert Ocasio
William Shattuck, Jr.
Donald Thayer
Edward L. Fuller
Melissa Conrad
Scott Cameron
Edward Knight
Scott Rae
Matt Rivest
Jeremy Gemme
Mark Lavallee
Richard Bernier
Patrick McMorrow
Scott Chapman
Thomas Giguere

Auxiliary Firefighters

Mike Beaupre
Jeff Haughey
Jon Ritter

Types of Responses 2003

Structure Fires	27
Vehicle Fires	10
Vehicle Extrication	15
Wildland Fires	47
CO Alarms	6
Hazardous Spills	17
Faulty Appliance	84
Sounding Alarms	43
Assist Police / EMS	9
Assist Homeowner	3
Odor Investigation	17
Officer Call	7
Mutual Aid	8
Total	**293**

Inspections and Permits

Open Burning	698
Smoke Detector	303
Oil Burner	158
Propane Tank	147
Underground Tank Removal	23
Blasting	11
Total	**1340**

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT

In 1998, after some 336 years, the government of Hampshire County was dissolved and replaced with a regional Council of Governments established by a charter that was approved in the general election of that year. The Council is a voluntary association of cities and towns in Hampshire County, set up "to deal with regional issues, which transcend the existing boundaries of municipal governments." Presently, there are some thirteen cities and towns, which make up the Council of which Belchertown is the second largest. Voters in member towns elect representatives to the council at their municipal election.

The councilors oversee existing programs and identify problems shared by their towns that may be amenable to a regional solution. They serve as trustees for the Hampshire Care nursing facility and for the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust, which provides medical insurance for thousands of municipal employees and their families. The Hampshire Care nursing facility, which has produced a surplus in operating revenues for the last few years, has been awarded the highest rating by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. And the Insurance Trust has saved the sixty-three towns and units included in the trust, several million dollars over the last several years.

The Council holds a Massachusetts license to be a "*competitive Supplier of electricity*" enabling it to provide low-cost electricity to our member towns. A contract to supply electricity to Belchertown has been presented to our Board of Selectmen. The Council also provides cooperative purchasing, distribution of federal surplus equipment, and a myriad of additional services. In the last complete fiscal year, our town purchased some $637,559 worth of goods from the Council at a cost of $487,612 for **a savings of $149,947.** The Council in the past has provided surplus vehicles and equipment to the town at little or no cost.

The Council collaborates with the University of Massachusetts and area police and fire professionals to prepare **all-hazard emergency response plans.** The Council arranges **workshops and seminars** on topics of interest to local officials and provides an **annual wage and salary survey** to those officials.

THE COUNCIL EXISTS TO BENEFIT ITS MEMBER TOWNS.

William R. Barnett, Councilor

BOARD OF HEALTH

Communicable Disease Report – 2003

The following contagious diseases and animal bites were reported for the Town of Belchertown in 2003:

Animal Bites:	
Cat bites	1
Dog bites	12

Reportable Diseases:	
Lyme disease	4
Chickenpox	1
Campylobactor Enteritis	2
Amebiasis	1
Salmonella	1
Influenza A	1
Hepatitis C	2

The control of communicable diseases remains a very important focus of our public health program. Our surveillance and control objectives are as follows:

- Receive and process disease reports
- Maintain patient confidentiality
- Investigate source or possible transmission mode
- Enforce quarantine and isolation laws
- Ensure access to medical testing and treatment
- Educate to reduce risk.

Our efforts are dependent on cooperation from area physicians and hospitals. To have a successful infectious disease control program, we must receive reports in a timely fashion.

All contagious disease reports received by the Board of Health Office are investigated by Jane Beckland, R.N., from Mary Lane Hospital's Visiting Nurse Association. The Board has a contract with that organization to provide public health nursing services to Belchertown residents.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Metcalf, R.S., C.H.O.
Director of Public Health

Board of Health Permit Activity

The following is a list of the various permits that were issued by the Board of Health office in 2003:

Well Permits: *83 new const.; 11 replacements	*94
Septic Permits: *92 new const.; 54 repairs	*146
Food Establishment Permits:	28
Limited Food Establishment Permits:	7
Retail Food Permits:	15
Residential Kitchen Permit:	1
Massage Therapy Licenses:	11
Tanning Unit Permits:	9
Ecology Can Permit:	1
Funeral Director License:	1
Hauler's Permits:	7
Public Pool Permit:	1
Public Spa Permit:	1
Temporary Food Permits: *Belchertown Fair	*28
Mobile Food Permits:	4
Day Camp Permit:	0
Piggery License:	1
Frozen Dessert Licenses:	2
Mobile Home License:	1
Tobacco Retail Permits:	12
Installer's Permits:	37
Milk & Cream Licenses:	34
Bakery:	2

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Aberdale, Senior Clerk

QUABBIN HEALTH DISTRICT

The Quabbin Health District is a regional health department serving the communities of Belchertown, Ware, and Pelham. It was established by town meeting vote in 1980 and is the joint effort of the local Boards of Health to provide their towns with public health professionals and services. Our primary duties center on enforcing provisions of the State Sanitary Code and Environmental Code under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health. We also provide technical assistance and educational services to residents and other municipal departments. The Quabbin Health District serves a total population of approximately 25,000 residents in an area of about 120 square miles in Hampshire County. The following table lists the major inspection services provided to each town in the District during 2003.

	Belchertown	**Ware**	**Pelham**
Perc Test/Deepholes & Soil Evaluations	214	98	17
Septic Application Review (New Construction)	92	47	2
Septic Application Review (Repair)	54	32	7
Septic Installation Inspections & Re-inspections	132	68	9
Well Application Review	94	N/A	2
Housing Inspections (Upon Complaint) & Re-inspections	15	42	2
Housing Re-inspections	18	86	4
Rental Voucher Inspections (Upon Request)	0	10	0
Lead Paint Inspections	0	4	0
Condemnation – Number of Units	2	3	0
Food Establishment Inspections	57	75	0
Mobile Temporary Food Inspections	28	16	0
Nuisance Complaints	11	41	0
Court Appearances	1	13	0
Housing Hearings	2	5	0
Recreational Camp Inspections	0	0	0
Tanning Salon Inspections	2	3	0
Massage Therapy Inspections	2	1	1
Tattoo Inspections	0	0	0
Pool and Sauna Inspections	4	0	N/A
Beaver Complaints	5	4	2
West Nile Virus Bird Samplings	2	2	0
Board Meetings	11	12	12

REVENUE GENERATED BY ACTIVITIES: TOTALS PER TOWN

BELCHERTOWN:	
Number of activities perform in Belchertown:	746
Amount of revenue generated in Belchertown by Board of Health:	$64,996.53
Amount submitted to the Belchertown Treasurer:	$64,996.53
WARE:	
Number of activities perform in Ware	562
Amount of revenue generated in Ware by Board of Health:	$47,851.00
Amount submitted to the Ware Treasurer:	$47,851.00
PELHAM:	
Number of activities perform in Pelham:	58
Amount of revenue generated in Pelham by Board of Health:	$3,955
Amount submitted to the Pelham Treasurer:	$3,955

The Quabbin Health District Board of Directors met during 2003. Main agenda items discussed were the 2004 budget, town assessments, and the rising cost of health insurance and pension costs. The Board of Directors is composed of the elected Board of Health members from all three communities within the District. The meeting place rotates among the three Town Halls.

The Quabbin Health District's administrative staff changed in 2003. Betty Barlow was hired as the Administrative Assistant. Her workplace location is in the Ware Town Hall. Colleen Aberdale was hired as Senior Clerk. Her workplace location is the Belchertown Town Hall. The Health Director and Inspector work in all three communities and maintain fully functional workplaces in both Ware and Belchertown.

An ongoing activity of personnel is to participate in continuing education seminars and training sessions sponsored by various Federal and State agencies as well as professional groups. In the year 2003, much focus was placed on emergency event training and preparation. Staff received training in Biomonitoring, Effective Communication during emergency situations, Small Pox Pre-event Planning, as well as Food borne Illnesses and Title V

I would like to thank members of the District Board of Directors for their continued support. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and effort shown by my co-workers: Randall Gauley, Health Inspector; Betty Barlow, Administrative Assistant; Colleen Aberdale, Senior Clerk.

Sincerely,

Judy Metcalf, R.S., C.H.O.
Director of Public Health
Quabbin Health District

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

At the Annual Town Meeting in May 1990, The Belchertown Center Historic District was established under Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40C, entitled "The Historic Districts Act." Under Chapter 40C of the MGL, cities and towns may establish Local Historic Districts to preserve and protect buildings and places of historic or architectural significance.

The Local Historic District provides for the review of proposed demolition, new construction or significant alteration within the boundaries of the district, in order to ensure that the proposed work is compatible and not disruptive to the visual character of the District. It does not restrict the use of buildings or land beyond that established by local zoning by-laws. Presently, there are over 100 Historic District Commissions operating in Massachusetts, administering over 200 Local Historic Districts.

Although there are many significant historic properties within the Town, the Historic District Commission is responsible for the protection of those structures that are within the Center historic district. In November 2003, several homeowners within the Federal Street area asked the Selectmen to appoint a study committee to investigate whether or not some antique properties within the Federal Street area were worthy of the protection offered by a local historic district. We look forward to assisting with that project during the coming year.

Historic District Commissions are at the front line of preservation in Massachusetts. The review authority and oversight they have is a very effective method of preservation. In fact, our own Historic District was created because of the concern that there was significant change happening within the area of the Town Common--several buildings had been moved to other areas of town, one had been demolished.

- During the past year we held six public hearings regarding proposed work within the Historic District.

- We completed work on design guidelines for property owners within the Historic District and mailed them out to each property owner within the District.

- With funding from the Belchertown Arts Lottery Council we were able to publish a *Walking Guide to the Historic District*, which is available at the Mucky Duck Bed and Breakfast, Carriage Town Bed and Breakfast, Cold Spring Wine and Spirits and Swift River Crafts.

- Stacy M. Race, who was instrumental in putting together the "Day of the Dead" program finished law school and moved back to her hometown in South Carolina. Her unlimited energy and curiosity about Belchertown's history was an inspiration to us all. She has been greatly missed.

- We are seeking two new members for the Commission with expertise in the area of real estate or law and someone who is an architect or has experience in the restoration of antique buildings. We would be interested in hearing from you.

- On July 24 before the first concert of the "Concerts on the Common" series, the Historic District Commission presented the first preservation awards. This will become an annual event for properties located within the Historic District. The property owner's chosen were recognized for their efforts in safeguarding the historic integrity of their homes for future generations to enjoy. Those presented with awards, in the form of historic markers for their properties were:

  Denise and Dan Smith, 32 Main Street, Jenks/Clapp House.

  Heather and Scott Baily, 21 Maple Street, Edward Towne House.

  Kelly Mitchell Boyko and Andrew Boyko, 25 Maple Street, The Charles Downing House

Since the first Historic District was established on Nantucket in 1955, Historic District Commissions have greatly influenced the preservation of irreplaceable resources throughout the state. We hope that this gives you renewed pride in our historic district, appreciation of the beauty of our town center and the need to preserve it for future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Dupre, Chair
Beth Behn
Annie Steiner

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Membership – 2003:

Leslie E. Squires – Chair
Genevieve Schreiber - Secretary
Ethel M. Brunson
Judith Fuller Gillan
Kenneth F. Kitchell, Jr.
F. Knowlton Utley
Bonnie Strickland
Loy Harris, Associate Member

This year the Belchertown Historical Commission has continued its work on mapping Belchertown's cemeteries. Once completed, it will submit a formal inventory to the Massachusetts Historical Commission, as a first step in seeking funds to restore our historically significant gravestones. Mount Hope Cemetery, located in the Town Center, is still the focus of our work, which includes photographic documentation of gravestones dated prior to 1900, and recording names and dates on all gravestones. The project has been put on hold for the winter, due to snow and cold temperatures, but will continue in the spring of 2004.

The Commission has held several discussions concerning the demolition of historic buildings in Belchertown. A number of citizens have approached Commission members about this concern. A good example is the Moriarty farmhouse on Cold Spring Road. The building, erected in around 1820 by Samuel Shaw, first served as a "Public House" and was located near the cold spring that inspired Belchertown's original name. We have also recently lost the Sanford – Thayer house at 85 North Main Street, the Dunbar house at 154 North Main Street, and the little restaurant at the intersection of Routes 9 & 202, among others. All offered historical value to our community, which might have been documented prior to demolition, if a notification process were in place.

Commission members held an informative meeting with Christopher Skelly, Director of Local Government Programs for the Massachusetts Historical Commission. He advised us on developing our Commission so that it can more effectively carry out its state mandates and its responsibilities to the Town of Belchertown. He encouraged us to explore the possibility of encouraging the Town to adopt a "Demolition Delay" ordinance, such as those that have been adopted by a number of communities throughout the State. The Commission had formed a committee to look into this idea.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie E. Squires, Chairman
Belchertown Historical Commission

INSPECTION SERVICES

The Inspection Services Department issued 93 single-family new construction building permit applications during the year 2003, 1 less than the 2002 figure of 92. The total number of building permits for the year totaled 516. This includes all single-family homes, additions, demolitions, sheds, garages, barns, etc.

Paul Adzima continues to serve as the Building Inspector as well as the ADA Liaison, Weights and Measures Inspector and Zoning Enforcement Officer. Michael Henry continues to serve as Assistant Building Inspector.

David Fredenburgh continues to serve as primary Plumbing and Gas Inspector and Christopher Hubbard is serving as Assistant Plumbing and Gas Inspector.

Paul Choiniere continues to serve as primary Electrical Inspector. Harvey Beaupre retired as Assistant Electrical Inspector. Douglas Rae assumed the position of Assistant Electrical Inspector.

Construction for the new St. Francis Church began. Other commercial building this year included: The beginning of construction for Florence Savings Bank, North Brookfield Savings Bank, and the Easthampton Savings Bank. The old Post Office Building was demolished.

There was a Special Town Meeting held in December to limit new construction of single-family homes to 50 per year. This was defeated.

PARKS, BEACH AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

With the continuing support of our loyal patrons and restructuring our budgets we have been able to continue to offer many different aquatic services. We are continuing to offer the following programs: American Red Cross Learn to Swim Classes, Scuba, morning and evening water exercise classes, lap swimming 5 nights a week, in the wee hours of the morning on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, along with morning hours on Saturdays and Sundays. Family swim time is offered to the public Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Private rentals of the pool continue to be very popular with most every Saturday and Sunday booked during the winter and fall months. Private schools and local boys and girls scout troops continued to use the facility this past year. Water Safety Instructor Courses and American Red Cross and CPR/FPR training courses were offered in the spring and fall.

The overall beautification of the Town Beach along with the many heat waves we experienced this past summer helped to increase our daily attendance.

Even though we continue to feel the effects of the budget cuts and most of our long range improvement and development plans have had to be put on the back burner, we continue to be able to offer our community a variety of activities aimed at enriching leisure activities for the residents of Belchertown. Enjoyment and safety of the participants in recreational programs will always be our number one goal. By trimming some corners and the invaluable help of volunteers we were still able to hold weeklong clinics this past summer for basketball, baseball, softball, tennis and soccer. Summer programs for ages 3 to 15 enjoyed such programs as art classes, baton, Take-A-Hike, wrestling, biking, canoeing, golfing and jr. bikers. We introduced two new programs that were very successful: MAD Science Week and Adventure Week. We survived our 11th annual basketball tournament with just a few delays from Mother Nature. We managed some how to hold the 13th annual baseball tournament between the many thunderstorms and torrential rainstorms that blanketed our area the past August. It was another great but wet turnout from many area town teams. The rain stopped long enough for us to enjoy a beautiful day outdoors in August for our 13th annual golf tournament.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the many area businesses that generously donate to our many causes time after time and welcome new sponsors to our family. We greatly appreciate the tremendous amount of time that our coaches, assistant coaches and volunteers unselfishly give to the youth of this community. We acknowledge the assistance we receive from the Maintenance Department, Town Hall offices and the Belchertown School Department, whose commitment to the residents of the Town make it possible for this department to be able to offer a variety of programming.

PLANNING BOARD

Residential development in 2003 remained consistent with recent years. The Inspection Services report has a breakdown of new house building permits issued for the year. A sixteen-unit condominium project for residents aged 55 and older was approved. Non-residential development also continued to increase. The Planning Board reviewed applications and plans that included several commercial expansions, and four new commercial projects.

The Planning Board continues to encourage the community to get more involved in guiding the direction of the Town's growth. There is much going on and everyone is affected.

Development Activity

Subdivision Approval Not Required (ANR): Any time someone is to change a property line, even if the same person owns the two adjoining lots, the plan must be endorsed by the Planning Board and recorded at the Hampshire Registry of Deeds. If the change does not create a new building lot, or if it does create a building lot but each new lot has the required frontage on an existing public street, subdivision approval is not required. The

Planning Board must simply endorse the plan indicating that it does not create a subdivision.

Sixty-nine new building lots were created along existing town roads through ANR plans. This is 37 fewer ANR lots than last year. There were numerous other ANR plans submitted that simply moved property lines without creating new building lots. The new building lots were created as listed:

Stebbins Street	22
North Liberty Street	5
South Washington Street	5
State Street	5
North Washington St.	4
Granby Road	3
Ludlow Road	3
Rockrimmon Road	3
Bardwell Street	2
Cottage Street	2
Eastview Drive	2
West Street	2
Allen Road	1
Amherst Road	1
Dressel Avenue	1
Gulf Road	1
Kimball Street	1
Main Street	1
Nathanial Way	1
Railroad Street	1
South Liberty Street	1
Stadler Street	1
Turkey Hill Road	1

Preliminary Subdivision Plans: the Planning Board reviewed four preliminary subdivision plans during 2003. A preliminary subdivision plan is an opportunity for a developer and the Planning Board to negotiate a project in its early stages before the binding obligations of a definitive subdivision submittal. Preliminary plans are not required for residential subdivisions, but are required for all non-residential subdivisions. A preliminary plan in many ways protects a developer by prompting a "freeze" on certain regulatory changes that may take effect within a certain amount of time. As long as the preliminary plan is followed by the submittal of a definitive plan within seven months, changes such as zoning or subdivision regulations do not apply to that project. This is true even if the Planning Board does not approve a preliminary plan. The four preliminary plans reviewed in 2003 were all plans for residential subdivisions.

Definitive Subdivision Plans: Five definitive subdivision plans were reviewed during 2003. One of these plans was approved, and the other four are still being reviewed. The one approved is for the former Belchertown State School campus. This is a commercial subdivision with an accompanying business and technology park zoning special permit. There are two dead-end streets in the first phase that are to connect later. This plan has 13 lots in the first phase. The pending subdivisions are Brianna Way, a 35 lot loop road off the end of Shea Avenue; Emily Lane, a 12 lot dead-end off Stebbins Street, which includes dedicated open space; Meadow Pond Road, off Ware Road, a 16 lot dead-end with dedicated open space; and High Meadow Road, off Franklin Street, a cluster subdivision with two dead-end roads, 24 lots, and dedicated open space.

The Planning Board monitored 11 other subdivisions under construction during 2003. Performance guarantee exchanges, plan modifications and extensions for subdivisions were processed.

Completed Subdivisions: No subdivision was completed in 2003.

Other Development Reviews:

The Planning Board reviewed several site plans and special permit applications. Site plans included a plumbing shop, three banks, expansion of a retail center, a miniature golf course and driving range, and several retail and office building additions. The Planning Board granted a special permit for an age-restricted fifty-five-and-over housing complex off North Main Street, and special permits for two two-lot common drives, one off State Street, the other off Bay Path Road.

Planning Projects and Recommendations

The Planning Board recommended some revisions to the Zoning Bylaw to Town Meeting. These included clarifying the language in the common drive section, and changing the schedule of uses to allow open space subdivisions by right, instead of requiring a special permit. Other parties requested changes to the Zoning Bylaw, which requires the Planning Board to hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to Town Meeting. The Planning Board does not sponsor nor support every proposed change to the Zoning Bylaw or map.

The Planning Board worked with the Selectmen to administer the Commonwealth's Executive Order 418 programs. EO 418 was issued by Governor Cellucci and continued by Governors Swift and Romney. It has two components: one is what is called "affordable" housing; the other is for planning services. The housing component requires each town and city to be certified annually to show that progress is being made to add "affordable" housing – the definition is loose, in that "affordable" in this program is anything less than $249,000. The penalty for the Town not being certified is that we would be scored negatively in application for any grants administered by the State. As the Library, EDIC, and other groups in town apply for such grants, it is important that we keep certified. The planning component of EO 418 was completed in 2003. From this we received consultant services up to $30,000 in value from the State. This is more than was spent on the entire Community Plan. This project enabled us to work on one of the main priorities identified in the Community Plan. The result is the Town Center Plan, covering the general area from Turkey Hill Road, to Ware Road, to Pelham Road, to Bay Road, and including the State School and Common. Tangible recommendations are within this plan regarding traffic flow, economic development, community open spaces, historic preservation, and alternative housing opportunities.

Compliance With the Belchertown Community Plan

The Planning Board continued implementing the recommendations of the Community Plan. Some of the actions include:

- Revised the Open Space Community Development bylaw to allow cluster subdivisions by right rather than to require a special permit. This was approved by Town Meeting.

- Revised the common drive bylaw to clarify language and improve standards for the owners' maintenance agreements. This was approved by Town Meeting.

- Encouraged developers to include more open space and preserved land in their projects. All but one of the subdivisions submitted this year include dedicated open space.

- Worked with the EDIC and Selectmen on planning for the former State School. This included the planning staff assisting the EO 418 consultant with the overall Town Center plan.

- Supported legislative redrafting of Massachusetts' land use laws.

Other Work of the Planning Department

The Town Planner continues to oversee the Town's Geographic Information System (GIS). During 2003, a link to an Internet version of the GIS was added. The main system continues to be updated, though funding has not been available to expand it to more departments. The Internet version might eventually make full expansion of the main GIS unnecessary, saving the Town money, while making the system more useful.

The Planning Board's web site linked via the Town Hall site is maintained by the Planning Department. This site has the subdivision regulations, forms, other documents, and some useful planning-related links.

Continuous activities of the Planning Office and Planning Board include reviewing and processing plans, monitoring projects, voting on development and land division applications, and making recommendations to the Zoning Board of Appeals and other boards. The Planning Board reviews requests for changes to zones and the Zoning Bylaw and makes zoning recommendations to Town Meeting. The Planning Board reviews common drive developments, subdivisions, "Approval Not Required" plans, non-residential site plans, earth removal plans, and wireless communication facility plans. The Planning Board also made recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on the Town's right of first refusal to purchase land held under Chapter 61 restrictions. The Board also advises and assists other town offices, developers, property owners, and the public.

The Town Planner manages the Planning Office and assists the Planning Board in development review, procedural interpretation, and research. The Town Planner also coordinates planning and reviews with other town offices, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, developers, residents, and businesses. The Town Planner maintains contacts with the UMass Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning Department, state agencies, our legislators, professional planning organizations, and planning colleagues.

Board Membership

The Planning Board membership is as follows:

James Natle, Vice Chair (term expires: 2004);
Daniel Beaudette, Commissioner to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (term expires: 2005);
Joe Gilman, Clerk (term expires: 2006);
Elizabeth Chase (term expires: 2007);
James Barry, Chair, and Single Signature for "Subdivision Approval Not Required" plans (re-elected in 2003 -- term expires: 2008);

George Synan, Alternate Voting Member for Special Permits; (appointed annually)
Susan Bradway, Associate Member. (appointed annually)

Staff

Susan Gay is the Planning Board Secretary. Douglas Albertson is the Town Planner and Alternate Commissioner to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Planning Board,

Douglas Albertson
Town Planner

BELCHERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department continued to remain proactive in 2003, maintaining a low crime rate and providing quality services to the citizens of Belchertown.

Our communications center received 11,105 calls for services; in addition to 1,600 emergency 9-1-1 calls. Officers made 427 arrests, for a total of 642 incidents. Officers issued 2,307 motor vehicles violations. This included 969 civil violations, 1,135 warnings, 100 arrests, and 95 criminal violations. The Police Department investigated 276 motor vehicle accidents.

We continue to offer many popular community-policing programs to the community, the RAD, RAD kids programs, and the Citizen Police Academy. The 11-week Citizen Police Academy program enables the residents to meet and be instructed by Belchertown officers about various aspects of police work. The program is offered in the spring and fall of each year. The 2 classes that were held this past year were very successful. This program continues to receive overwhelming response, and continues to be a major component of our department's community policing efforts.

Community policing, traffic safety and working with local schools and senior citizens continues to be one of our department's priorities. The Department continues to assign a full time school resource officer to work within the middle and high school assisting staff and students. The officer has been funded by a grant from the Department of Justice. The D.A.R.E curriculum is being presented at the 5th and 10th grade levels. Both the Police Department and the School Department endorse the program and remain committed to teaching our children to resist the dangers of drugs. The Police Department continues to work with the community senior population through the TRIAD program and the local S.A.L.T (seniors and law enforcement working together) The Police Department has assigned Sergeant David Conkey as the liaison officer to work with this program

Police officers with cooperation of the Belchertown Recreation Department continue to teach the RAD and RAD kids programs. This program is designed as a personal empowerment safety education program. Women and children continue to receive the program with overwhelming response enthusiasm. The Police Department continues to offer this at the high school for junior and senior women so they could receive classroom credit for the program. The Police Department recently trained four officers as Child Passenger Safety Seat Technicians, this program is sponsored by the Governors Highway Safety Bureau and will allow our department to install and check the safety of car seats for our communities' children. Safety seat checkpoints will be held throughout the course of this coming year and appointments may be made by calling the Police Department.

The Belchertown Police Department this past year had several staff changes and additions to the organization four officers were promoted to the supervisory ranks within the organization to backfill positions left vacant due to retirements and promotions and the Department hired several new part time officers.

Promoted this past year were Officers David Conkey, Bruce Jenks and Kevin Pacunas to the rank of Sergeant, Sergeant James Jackson Jr. was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Four Part time officers were appointed to full time positions, Officers Adam Brougham, Neil Lozier, John Raymer, and Jason Krol. Officers Brougham and Lozier recently graduated from the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Academy in Agawam Massachusetts in December 2003.

The Department hired five new part time officers; they are Officers Peter Gaj, Steven Henn, Susan Dawley, Dennis Fitzgerald, and Linnea Lavoie-Bernard.

The Belchertown Police Department continues to strive to make this community viable for residency and business growth through the service of public safety to the community. The cooperative efforts and partnership of all town departments, government and especially our community residents is appreciated and helps the Police Department remain proactive in best addressing the needs of public safety.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis R. Fox Jr.
Chief of Police

PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District Committee presents this report to the citizens of the District. The Committee continued to consist of nine members – two each from Belchertown and Palmer – and one from each of the communities of Granby, Hardwick, Monson, New Braintree, and Ware. Mr. Cavanaugh of Palmer will continue as Chairman, and David Droz, also of Palmer, will serve as Vice-Chairman.

Pathfinder's School Council—consisting of three parents, two teachers, two students, a community member, and a college representative and co-chaired by Pathfinder's Assistant Superintendent—has continued to provide guidance and direction to the administration in its efforts to improve the educational experience of students attending Pathfinder.

CURRICULUM

Superintendent Gerald Paist and Assistant Superintendent David Andersen identified a number of curriculum initiatives undertaken during the year:

- Staff continued to address recommendations for areas of improvement identified by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges. Progress in these areas, most of which have been completed, will be reported to the Association in March 2004 in anticipation of continued accreditation.

- The nationally acclaimed *High Schools That Work* initiative has been successfully launched. A number of changes and improvements, each designed to increase learning and/or enhance information delivery, have been implemented. These efforts in *HTSW* complement and expand our existing commitment to helping all students meet and exceed MCAS requirements.

  (a) By manipulating the daily schedule without affecting time-on-learning, 30 minutes of common planning time has been added to the end of each day to provide the opportunity for teachers to collaborate on integrating projects between academic and vocational subjects.

  (b) Unless previously taken, all students now study Algebra I as freshmen, geometry as a sophomore, and Algebra II as a junior.

  (c) As part of creating a more rigorous curriculum, a class in statistics has been added as an elective, and all students are encouraged to take a fourth year of mathematics.

  (d) A diagnostic and remedial basic math program is now in place during the freshman year. Each Related Instructor, in conjunction with our Mathematics Specialist, evaluates his or her students and then provides remedial activities in areas of identified weakness.

- Pathfinder applied for and received a $200,000 technology grant over a two-year period to hire a Mathematics Specialist, purchase laptop computers, train teachers in the latest instructional technology, and provide resources for student remediation in mathematics.

- Updated Reading/Language Arts software has been installed and is being utilized with our mobile laptop computer labs. These new materials augment our teachers' instruction as well as provide an additional resource for MCAS remediation.

Municipal and community service projects continued to be important components of the Pathfinder curriculum for upper class students. A sample of such efforts during the past year includes the following:

- Automotive students participated in a car wash fundraiser for a family that lost their home in a fire.
- Auto Body students restored the D.A.R.E Car for the Palmer Police Department.
- Carpentry students completed a garage for the Ware Parks Department, constructed a ticket booth for St. Joe's Field in Thorndike, coordinated with the Monson School Department on a Bat House Project, and constructed a storage building at Granby High School.
- Cosmetology students participated in the Monson Teen Fair.
- Culinary Arts students provided services to the Belchertown Citizens' Police Academy, Belchertown Teen Center, March of Dimes, St Mary's School PTO Scholarship Fund, Palmer Habitat for Humanity, Palmer Police Department, Old Mill Pond School, Monson Music Boosters, and held a bake sale for Warren fire victims.
- Electrical students completed wiring for the electrical, telephone, security, and fire systems for the Ware Parks Department garage. The students continued to provide services to the Town of Palmer for the ongoing park project in Three Rivers.
- Electronics students performed repairs on various audio systems for the Monson Library, Quarry Hill School Library, and the Quaboag Nursing Home.
- Health Technology students participated in the disaster drill for the Wing Memorial Hospital and Palmer Ambulance and assisted in the annual Pathfinder Blood Drive.
- Horticulture students constructed a water pond and retaining wall for the Pine Valley Plantation community in Belchertown and completed a landscape project for the Monson Library.
- Information Technology students created a database of volunteers and contributors for the Monson Free Library.
- Office Business students prepared and collated various materials for the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce, Quaboag Valley Business Assistance Corporation, and the Palmer Lions. They also prepared an edition of Town By-laws for the Town of New Braintree.
- The annual House Building Project is taking place in Ware and involves carpentry and HVAC students.

The Cooperative Education Program placed more than 35 students representing 12 career areas with local employers. Pathfinder Co-op students must first demonstrate sound basic career skills, a positive work ethic, and an ability to get along with peers and adults. This program, only for qualified students, is unique to vocational schools. The off-campus, alternate week, work schedule with highly skilled professionals provides students with an opportunity to experience a broad range of enhanced technical, creative, and personal services learning situations. Reports from employers indicate Pathfinder students are willing to work hard, eagerly learn detail and new skills, and understand the importance of customer satisfaction.

STUDENT BODY

Pathfinder's October 1st enrollment totaled 655 students, including the following numbers from member towns: Belchertown 79; Granby 27; Hardwick 32; Monson 93; New Braintree 8; Palmer 156; and Ware 109. The remaining 151 students were residents of out-of-district communities.

During this past year, the Guidance Office, which also serves as the Admissions Office, received 358 applications for admission in September. Pathfinder once again offered a wide variety of opportunities for area parents and their children to learn about and visit the school. There were two Open House Programs, one in the fall and another in the spring. The Summer Youth Enrichment Program and the Afternoon Exploratory Program for 7th and 8th grade students continued to attract large numbers of enthusiastic participants.

Director of Guidance Mark Condon reported that of the applications received for the 2003-04 school year, 283 were for the 175 available 9th grade openings. Once again, transfer opportunities into the 10th and 11th grades were limited, and there was a waiting list for space in grades 9, 10, and 11.

The Pathfinder Chapter of the National Vocational-Technical Honor Society inducted a deserving group of new and existing members in an impressive ceremony in March. The Chapter continued the practice of inviting Renaissance Award-winners who demonstrated potential for eventual selection into the Society as guests.

Pathfinder's selection to represent the school at the Seventeenth Annual "Outstanding Vocational-Technical Student" awards dinner sponsored by the Massachusetts Vocational Association and the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators was Monson resident Alyssa Camerota, a student in the Carpentry Program. Alyssa earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.768, was a member of the National Vocational Technical Honor Society for two years, participated in varsity soccer and softball, and graduated third in her class. She was selected for the All Western Mass soccer team in her senior year and was also chosen as a member of *The Republican* All Scholastic Team.

Another senior to receive statewide recognition was Christopher Korzeniowski of Granby. Chris was the recipient of the Massachusetts Vocational Association Secondary Award honoring outstanding vocational-technical students throughout the Commonwealth. Chris's cumulative grade point average of 3.894 earned him the distinction of valedictorian of the Class of 2003 as well as National Vocational Technical Honor Society status. Chris is currently enrolled in the computer-engineering program at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Senior Valerie Kowalik from Monson was Pathfinder's nominee for The Walter J. Markham award, established to honor an outstanding graduate of an approved vocational-technical program. Valerie ranked second in her class with a 3.789 cumulative grade point average, and she was also a two-year member of the National Vocational Technical Honor Society. Valerie was Vice-President of the American Culinary Foundation Junior Chapter and also played varsity basketball.

In June 2003, the graduating class of 138 students received diplomas and technical certificates at commencement exercises. Approximately 72% of the graduates were working or had plans to continue their education at the post-secondary level, while another 8% had made commitments to serve in the military. Articulation agreements with local colleges continued to have a positive effect on Pathfinder seniors, encouraging them to continue their education with advanced credit. Interest in four-year colleges also continued to be a popular option for graduating seniors.

The Scholarship Committee awarded approximately $21,850 in scholarships to members of the Class of 2003. Once again, state and local organizations, as well as individuals, continued to recognize the ability and potential of Pathfinder graduates in the form of generous donations. The School Committee, administration, and the graduates themselves are grateful for this support, and they are especially proud of the number of awards that have been made to honor the memory of former Pathfinder students and friends.

STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ATHLETICS

The goal of the Student Council is to promote positive relations among peers and boost student morale. To this end, many special presentations and community outreach programs highlighted a successful year:

- The Student Council held a blood drive in cooperation with the Red Cross in January; 100 pints were donated by students and staff.
- In February, a "Candy-gram" fundraiser was held to benefit the American Heart Association.
- Student Council members showcased Pathfinder by conducting tours during the March Open House.
- Student Council Members arranged for second graders from Old Mill Pond School to present a "Say 'No' to Drugs" program to the membership.
- The annual "Coats for Kids" drive was conducted during September and October in cooperation with Channel 40 News. Eight large bags of coats were collected for distribution to needy families.
- The annual Thanksgiving food drive was a huge success as students collected enough items for 40 full dinners that were distributed through Valley Human Services in Ware.
- As a result of a successful fundraiser dance, a donation was made to Toys for Tots.

Director of Athletics Donald Irzyk reported significant accomplishments of Pathfinder's athletic teams during 2003. More than 200 students participated in the athletic programs, with large numbers of freshmen signing up for football, cheerleading, and girls' soccer.

- The boys' varsity soccer team and the varsity football team experienced their best records in school history. Each team had their respective league championship decided in the final game of the season.
- Four varsity teams qualified for Western Mass. Tournament play: baseball, softball, girls' basketball, and boys' soccer.
- The baseball, softball, and boys' soccer teams qualified for the State Vocational School Tournament, with the baseball team emerging as State Vocational School Co-champions.
- Monica Turgeon and Sarah Hawley were named to *The Republican* All Western Mass First Team in softball.
- Alyssa Vance and Dustin Summers were named Outstanding Senior Athletes.

SPECIAL SERVICES

During 2003, the Special Education Department continued to provide high quality services for all eligible special education students. As previously noted, long-time Director James Martin retired in June and was succeeded by JoAnn Fitzpatrick. At the same time, the School Committee approved a reorganization of the Department in an effort to serve students more effectively in a time of limited resources.

The special education staff continued to provide academic and vocational instruction to students in grades 9-12 and to students attending the Modified Vocational Instruction Program (MVIP). The Department continued to implement the necessary changes to comply with new state regulations that align Massachusetts' practices more closely with federal special education law.

Staff members conducted Team evaluations, annual reviews, and diagnostic reviews for 55 students in the MVIP Program and 130 students in grades 9-12. Approximately 25 additional re-evaluations were completed.

The Department currently includes 17 professional teachers, 7 teacher aides, a part-time mobility instructor, and a part-time vision specialist for a visually impaired student. Licensed specialists include a Speech Therapist, School Psychologist, and Occupational Therapist.

Pathfinder continued to provide resource room instruction for all major courses offered in grades 10-12. Beginning with grade 9, math and English are offered in the resource room, but the content areas of history and science remain in the mainstream, consistent with an inclusion model approach. The required history and science courses are aligned with the Curriculum Frameworks. Math courses in the resource room continued to feature an integrated approach to algebra and geometry in preparation for MCAS.

Resource English included a variety of novels, short stories, and vocabulary exercises, with a special emphasis placed on open-ended questions—all in preparation for MCAS. Math, reading, and language arts instruction continued to be supplemented by Title I instruction.

The MVIP Program continued to operate near full capacity with 55 students. In an effort to more closely align offerings with Chapter 74 approved programs, Domestic and Personal Services was replaced by Health Occupations. Components of the program included:

- **Office Business**: Students work on printing, duplicating, and collating brochures and mailings for member communities and non-profit groups.
- **Building Services**: Students learn care of interior surfaces and coverings, building exteriors and grounds, and the use of some hand and power tools necessary in this line of work.
- **Horticulture**: Students learn maintenance of greenhouse and vegetable gardens, landscape maintenance, and floral design.
- **Auto Reconditioning**: Students learn the basics of cleaning and polishing cars along with professional workmanship, and they provide this service to the public.
- **Food Services**: Students learn the fundamentals of food preparation and service and assist in the preparation and production of the daily school lunch.
- **Health Occupations**: Students learn to maintain the patients' environment, to communicate with as well as assist them with various types of care. The students will be trained in light housekeeping and shopping duties.

The vocational-technical personnel in the MVIP Program prepare the students for a support role in the aligned program area. At graduation exercises in June, 10 MVIP students received their certificates.

Pathfinder

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Utilizing the Department of Education's Unified Request for Proposals, Pathfinder submitted and received grants for the following programs and/or purposes:

Fund Code	Program Name	Allocation
140	**Improving Educator Quality** This money was used for additional staffing to improve student teacher ratios.	$28,052
160	**Enhanced Education Through Technology** These funds were used to purchase a site license for Geometer's Sketch Pad – a high tech software package for our Math Department. The rest of the money is being applied to help purchase software for our English Mobile Lap Top Lab.	$3,582
142/274	**SPED 94-172 Program Improvement** These monies were used to fund a drop-out prevention program. They were also used to purchase a frame machine for Auto Body, a cash register system for Culinary Arts, and a shop bus for Carpentry. Additionally, an aide and a half time monitor were paid through these funds.	$197,741
170-b	**Technology Enhancing Education** The first year of this two year competitive grant went to bolstering our *High Schools That Work* initiative that all ninth graders take Algebra and all tenth graders take geometry purchasing a mobile laptop lab, software, and training. Additionally a full time Math Mentor was hired to help the related teachers who are now charged with addressing instructional gaps for our students.	$ 100,000
242	**MCAS Alternative Assessment** This money is purchasing a digital scanner and providing for one teacher to be trained on the State's updated Electronic Alternative Assessment.	$300
302	**Title V Innovative Program** This money went to update our libraries EBSCO databases.	$3,766
305	**Title I** Title I funds were used to hire a full time Language Specialist, a three fourths time Math Specialist and a full time aide to work with our most disadvantaged students.	$104,534

Fund Code	Program Name	Allocation
316	**School Achievement Award** This one time award for dramatic improvement in our MCAS scores was used to purchase A+ software and training for our Reading and Math Departments.	$10,452
400	**Perkins Act Allocation Funds** These funds were used to purchase a Wheel Alignment Machine with sensors, more than $12,000 worth of supplies for all our shops and lease a mobile lap-top lab for our Reading Department.	$83,043
413-a	**Perkins State Leadership** This second Installment of funding was used to support our *High Schools That Work* Program.	$20,000
632/625	**Academic Support** Academic Support monies went to hire an English teacher to work with at risk students in their shops, a Saturday Morning School program for our 10th graders preparing for their MCAS, and a summer program for ninth graders who hd not yet passed their 8th grade MCAS.	$62,500
7948	**WIA – Title I Youth Program** These funds were used to fund a year round coordinator, an intensive 5 week work/educational summer program for 32 at risk participants, and provide year round jobs for the 4 best participants. Additionally, it provided incentives for all participants to do well in school during the school year.	$75,668
	TOTAL	**$689,638**

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The School Committee wishes to give recognition to the following special programs and activities that took place during the year.

Pathfinder conducted its Career/Sports Camp again during the summer months under a name change: Youth Enrichment Program. A total of 133 area students between the ages of 9 and 13 attended one of four one-week sessions, each of which lasted for 5 days. The program offered 10 specialty areas: Auto Body, Automotive Technology, Carpentry, Computers, Culinary Arts, Digital Movie Making, Electronics, Environmental Explorers, and Floriculture Fun. The daily schedule consisted of specialty areas in the morning, sports and/or games after lunch, and an hour of free swim in the Palmer High School pool.

The Spring and Fall Afternoon Youth Enrichment Program served 116 students. The program operated one day per week for two hours. Each student spent eight weeks in his or her chosen specialty. The programs offered were: Auto Body, Automotive Technology, Carpentry, Computers, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Electronics, and Readers' Theatre.

Parent and student satisfaction with the Youth Enrichment Program has been extraordinary. It serves as an excellent introduction to the school and its environment.

Pathfinder once again received a grant from the Regional Employment Board under the Workforce Investment Act. A total of 32 in-school and 21 out-of-school youth took advantage of this program of part-time employment, including job counseling, academic support, and intensive follow-up by grant-supported staff.

Under the direction of Kenneth Heim, Pathfinder's summer school program was re-designed to more realistically reflect the requirements of summer schools in neighboring communities. Class time was lengthened to a total of 32 hours. Each of two sessions was two hours long and ran Monday through Thursday during the month of July. Ten academic classes were offered for students in grades 9-12. In addition, a related and shop hour workshop was offered for vocational students. One hundred nineteen students from nine school districts attended.

Also under the direction of Kenneth Heim, Pathfinder completed a re-evaluation of the Adult Evening Education Program. As a result of the concern over declining enrollments, a collaborative agreement was developed among Pathfinder, the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the Community Development Corporation. Under this partnership, the respective parties will work toward coordinating marketing materials and course registration, eliminating duplicate courses, and creating a series of courses involving each partner. Pathfinder's focus will be on offering courses in specialized computer applications and technical career areas. The leisure time/craft offerings will continue.

At this time, it is impossible to predict the ultimate success of these initiatives. However, Pathfinder anticipates that the plan will benefit the community at large as well as the school.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Currently the staff includes 39 vocational and related teachers, 15 professionals in special education, 23 academic teachers, 2 guidance counselors, 4 positions supported by federal grants, one individual on special assignment, 7 teacher aides, 8 administrative personnel and one technology coordinator. New to the school this year were a Spanish Teacher, a Technology Coordinator, and an English Teacher who replaced an individual who was transferred to another department.

Faced with severe budget limitations, the School Committee approved a reorganization of the Special Education Department that resulted in the reduction of one teaching position, one teacher aide, and the reassignment of some teaching duties to two other positions. Following the retirement of long-time Director James Martin, JoAnn Fitzpatrick was named to that position. In further response to the fiscal limitations, the School Committee opted not to replace an individual on leave.

The Pathfinder community was shocked and saddened by the untimely death of former Assistant Superintendent David LaPierre. Mr. LaPierre had been with Pathfinder since its beginning, serving as Automotive Instructor, Special Needs Instructor, Vocational Coordinator and finally Assistant Superintendent. At the time of his death, he was the Superintendent-Director of the Montachusett Regional Technical School in Fitchburg. Recognizing his profound influence in the community as well as in the state, the family chose to hold the funeral and memorial service at Pathfinder. The moving ceremony was attended by hundreds of friends and colleagues.

Superintendent Gerald L. Paist continued to serve on the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators and on the Board of Directors of the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce. He continued to serve as Chairman of the Professional and Legal Services Committee for the Mass. Association of School Superintendents. An active member of the Assn. for Career & Technical Education, he continued to serve as a Region I Director for that organization's National Council of Local Administrators.

Committee Chairman Michael Cavanaugh continued to serve as Chairman of the Vocational-Technical Division of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, and by virtue of that position served on the Association's Board of Directors.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Following an intense round of negotiations with member communities, the School Committee adopted an FY04 gross budget of $9,250,205, representing a 3% increase over the previous year. Of this amount, $8,364,477 was for net school spending purposes. The District expected to receive $2,357,609 in Chapter 70 funds, $171,985 in regional school transportation reimbursement, $343,326 in school building assistance. Following a further reduction of $92,045 in assessments, and application of school choice revenues and non-resident tuition income, the remaining $4,087,064 was certified to be raised through assessments to the member communities.

The final FY04 state budget produced three unwelcome results for Pathfinder: (1) a huge reduction in regional school transportation aid; (2) a decrease in Chapter 70 aid, and (3) a slight decrease in school building assistance reimbursement.

Considering its level-funded budget proposal for FY03, the school committee vigorously defended its 3% increase in FY04. It was grateful for support in five of the seven member communities. Town meeting voters in Monson and Ware chose to approve a lower assessment but made up the difference at special town meetings in the fall.

PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS 2003-2004

Town	Minimum Contribution	Share MVIP Program	Additional Contribution	Share of Cap (1 Yr.)	Transportation	Cap. Assessment	Committee Vote to Reduce Assessment	TOTAL
BELCHERTOWN	751999	17,324	120,347	34,365	28,603	14,736	18,731	948,643
GRANBY	385,102	25,986	49,931	14,258	11,867	6,320	7,769	485,696
HARDWICK	78,874	8,662	29,447	8,408	6,999	2,758	4,584	130,564
MONSON	521,183	77,959	111,385	31,806	26,473	8,958	17,332	760,432
N. BRAINTREE	41,678	0	10,242	2,925	2,434	1,062	1,592	56,749
PALMER	595,682	69,297	147,233	42,042	34,993	12,115	22,910	878,452
WARE	562,813	86,622	122,907	35,096	29,211	9,007	19,127	826,529
TOTAL	2,937,331	285,850	591,492	168,900	140,580	54,956	92,045	4,087,064

CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The School Committee is justly proud of the staff and students and of the contributions they have made to the economic health of our District. The Committee recognizes that, in this era of accountability and high expectations, many changes need to be made. The increased emphasis on academic skills needs to be maintained without diminishing the quality of students' technical studies.

The conclusion of the 2003 year brought continued signs that, despite some signs of economic recovery, budgets for the current year and in the near future will be significantly impacted by the state's fiscal crisis. Yet there appeared to be no enthusiasm to relax state mandates or to increase taxes. The Committee therefore looks forward to next year with the caution to which it has become accustomed. It is, however, committed to providing the best educational opportunities for workforce development within the District.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael J. Cavanaugh, Palmer, Chairman
Judith C. Dudek, Belchertown
Michael O'Connor, Belchertown
Elizabeth Desrochers, Granby
Robert J. Dupuis, Hardwick
Barbara L. Beaulieu, Monson
Geraldine A. Reavey, New Braintree
David Droz, Palmer
M. Barbara Ray, Ware
Nicole Devine, Student Representative
Gerald L. Paist, Superintendent- Director

BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Report

The 2003 school year could be characterized as a portrayal of: continued improvement in MCAS test scores; significant student enrollment growth with a continued lack of classroom expansion space for grades PreK-8; strong financial support from the town, state and private giving; an enhanced use of technology throughout the school district; notification of several personnel retirements; an unprecedented level of excellence in athletics; and a final decision on educational and grade level reorganization.

Concerning state MCAS scores, strong 2003 test results moved the Belchertown School District up to 81st out of 210 in state standings. Belchertown was ranked 106th in 2001 and 98th in 2002. In particular, reading at the elementary level, writing at elementary, middle and high school levels, English at the elementary, middle and high school levels, mathematics at the high school level, and science at the elementary and middle school levels were areas of continued strength when compared to the state averages. Most notable however, was the improvement in mathematics at the elementary and middle school levels. As compared to the previous year's MCAS results, grade 4 math scores at the Advanced/Proficient Levels increased by +14% and decreased by -14% at the Warning Level. Grade 6 math scores at the Advanced Level increased by +6% and decreased by -10% at the Warning Level. And grade 8 math scores at the Advanced/Proficient Levels increased by +9% and decreased by -9% at the Warning Levels. The movement of students out of the Warning Levels and up into the Advanced and Proficient Levels was very encouraging for the school district and on target with both state and federal goals. The superintendent wishes to convey his special thanks to the School Committee, school personnel, students, parents, and citizens for supporting high quality teaching and learning within Belchertown Public Schools. Also, the superintendent wishes to recognize the Board of Selectmen, Town Finance Committee, Town Administrator, Town Accountant, Town Treasurer and Town Clerk for successfully assisting the superintendent with many joint school/town projects and challenges during 2003.

Regarding student enrollment growth, the schools continued to reflect and even exceed the town's population growth. In a recent report, the School Department identified the town's population growth over the past thirteen years at +29.5%, while the School Department's student enrollment growth reached +41.4% over the same time period. The Massachusetts Department of Education recognized this growth by increasing Chapter 70 School Aid to Belchertown (i.e., one of the few school district's to receive increased school aid) and by approving a Foundation Reserve Grant to pay for an additional grade five and grade six teacher. The town also recognized student enrollment growth and the need for additional classroom space below the high school level by approving, at Special Town Meeting, funding to complete the renovations at the former high school facility to add additional classroom space for growth at grades PreK-8.

Financial support for the School Department remained strong. The state gave Belchertown additional Chapter 70 School Aid, despite the financial crisis, and also approved an $80,000 Foundation Reserve Grant to pay for two additional classroom teachers; one at the elementary level and one at the middle school level. The town also provided strong financial support for its schools by supporting the School Department's budget at Annual Town Meeting and by approving an additional $725,000 at Special Town Meeting to complete the renovations at the former high school facility. Private giving also increased significantly. In particular, special recognition was given to Country Bank and to the Art Of Giving Program of Natick, Massachusetts, for stepping up to the plate with a $150,000 matching grant to fill the funding void for the School District's after school program following federal government budget reductions which left Belchertown Public Schools with no grant money to continue the program.

Enhanced use of technology throughout the school district was a major accomplishment. In addition to finalizing the Metropolitan Area and Local Area Networks for Belchertown High School, Chestnut Hill Community School and Swift River Elementary School, the Metropolitan Area Network was connected to Cold Spring School and Tadgell School and a limited Local Area Network was added to Cold Spring School. All school personnel were issued school district e-mail addresses, with an increased use of e-mail to improve communication and to reduce clerical, paper, and copying costs. Also, the use of the web significantly increased to improve teaching and learning. Finally, the School District's main web site was expanded to include many more features, such as the ability to locate and download handbooks, formal plans, school policies and to link to each school site's own web page.

An aging faculty and staff resulted in the identification of several personnel retirements. Four support staff (i.e., two secretaries, one paraprofessional and one food service director) retired by year's end and eight faculty submitted their intent to retire within one year (i.e., three high school math teachers, one high school social studies teacher, one high school foreign language teacher, one high school music teacher, one kindergarten teacher, and one guidance counselor).

The athletic program at Belchertown High School experienced an unprecedented level of excellence in athletics, which brought pride not only to the school system but to the entire community. The BHS winter teams (i.e., basketball, hockey, wrestling, and swimming) were involved in post-season action and the girls' basketball and hockey teams earned championships within the Pioneer Valley Athletic Interscholastic Conference. The BHS fall Boy's Soccer Team earned a Western Massachusetts Division II Soccer Title, the BHS Girl's Division II Soccer Team brought home the high school's first state championship, and the BHS Football Team won the Division IIIA State Super Bowl Title.

Finally, of major significance, was the decision based on the Special Town Meeting vote to complete the renovation of the former high school as a new middle school; thus allowing the School Committee's approved educational and grade level reorganization plan to move forward for implementation. The approved educational and grade level reorganization plan on file with the Massachusetts Department of Education is:

Current Facilities/Current Grade Level Status Assignments	**Future Facilities/New Grade Level Assignments**
New High School (9-12) – Belchertown High School	High School (9-12) – Belchertown High School
Former High School (9-12) – Belchertown High School	New Middle School (7-8) – Jabish Brook Middle School
Current Middle School (6-8) – Chestnut Hill Community School	New Intermediate School (4-6) – Chestnut Hill Community School
Current Elementary School (3-5) – Swift River Elementary School	Remains as Elementary School (1-3) – Swift River Elementary School
Current Primary School (K-2) – Cold Spring Primary School	New Early Childhood Center (PreK and K) – Cold Spring Early Childhood Center
Current Tadgell Primary School (1-2) – Tadgell Primary School	Student Enrollment Overflow, Second Early Childhood Center, Expanded Programs, Alternative Programs, etc.
Berkshire Primary School (1-2)	To be returned to the Town as soon as possible

School Business Manager's Report

During 2003, despite reductions in state funding to the town, the citizens of Belchertown continued to provide strong financial support for their schools by once again voting for a school budget in excess of the minimum contribution required by the Department of Education. The school district's effective procedures for monitoring the spending of the budget for

2003 allowed the financial resources to be used as requested in the approved budget.

Belchertown Public Schools expended the funds from a federal renovation grant awarded to the Town of Belchertown to substantially complete the Jabish Brook Middle School to meet building code standards. The updates included replacing classroom ventilators, replacing hallway doors and upgrading the fire alarm system. At a Special Town Meeting on December 8, 2003, the town approved to borrow an additional $725,000 to continue the renovation of the Jabish Brook Middle School. The renovations are to be completed by August 2004, to allow Jabish Brook Middle School to open at the start of the 2004-2005 school year for seventh and eighth grade students.

Maureen Jagodowski retired as Director of Food Services on December 31, 2003. She had been the director for five and a one half years and was employed by the Belchertown Public Schools for over twelve years. A search was conducted to hire a new Director of Food Services. Ann Marie Beaupre, a long time employee of the Belchertown Public School Food Service Department, was selected as the Food Service Director. During 2003, the Belchertown School Lunch Program continued to maintain participation above the state average through the efforts of the hardworking food service staff. School lunch participation reached an all time high of 72 percent in November 2003.

Belchertown Public Schools continued to provide school bus transportation for all students. Based on Massachusetts Chapter 30B regulations, the town went out to bid and awarded a three year contract to Five Star Transportation of Agawam. Five Star transports all regular education students to and from the schools. Van Pool provides the transportation for special education students. Bus transportation continued to be provided for students participating in after school activities and high school activities.

Pupil-Personnel Services (Special Education) Director's Report

The 2003 school year was a year of continued growth and development for the Pupil Personnel/Special Education Department. There were 390 special needs students, 125 Title I students, 15 students receiving English as a Second Language (ESL) services and 65 students receiving services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act in the Belchertown Public School District. The vast majority of these students were serviced through programs provided within the school district. The in-district programs included supported inclusionary teaching models at the primary, elementary and middle school levels. In addition to the supported inclusion teaching programs, we employed learning centers at the elementary level and resource rooms at the middle school level. Other programs included a Learning Skills Program at Belchertown High School, Language Learning Programs at both the middle and high school levels, a School-to-Work Partnership Program at the high school level, a Life Skills Program at the middle school level, and an integrated Early Childhood Program, Autism Spectrum Early Childhood Program, and Early Childhood Language Program all located at Swift River Elementary School. These programs, plus our therapeutic programs, serviced special needs students between the ages of 3 - 22 years of age inclusive. Therapeutic programs included Speech/Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Adaptive Physical Education. With the assistance of our integration specialist, several students who otherwise would have been placed in out-of-the school district were educated in their local schools with support services.

Title 1, ESL and Section 504 services were offered to students who qualified under federal and state guidelines for additional support services. These services were provided in a variety of settings utilizing specialized materials and instruction.

In conclusion, it is important to note that the high quality Special Education, Title 1, ESL, and Section 504 services provided to the students of Belchertown were made possible through the dedication and expertise of the special education and regular education staff.

Primary Schools Principal's Report

During 2003, the three primary schools (Berkshire, Tadgell and Cold Spring) continued to grow and expand in many areas. Over 590 students in kindergarten, first and second grades experienced a year of developmentally appropriate instruction provided by a dedicated and innovative teaching staff. Developing the whole child continued to be the focus across the curriculum. High academic standards in alignment with the Massachusetts Department of Education's Curriculum Frameworks, ongoing implementation of the successful Second Step social skills program, and a comprehensive physical education and health program, allowed us to achieve this goal. Students were able to demonstrate for the community their competencies and talents in the areas of music, art, and dance during a "Performing Arts Night" held in the spring of 2003. Melding all subject areas through interdisciplinary instruction helped our younger students to realize how their lessons in the classroom applied to their everyday lives. There was an emphasis on connective learning, real world applications, and teaching for understanding to help students grasp skills at earlier ages and stages of development

Community service learning grants and the foster grandparent program enabled our students to realize the importance and responsibility of giving back to the Belchertown community. The full day kindergarten program continued to thrive and flourish as progress was made toward N.A.E.Y.C. accreditation (National Association for the Education of Young Children). The new standards-based report cards and comprehensive assessment system allowed students to perform and learn at levels appropriate for them. Differentiated instructional practices provided by the primary schools' teachers also facilitated a high degree of success in this area.

The Primary School Council reviewed and updated the School Improvement Plan which was formally approved by the School Committee in November. Many goals outlined in this plan were achieved thanks to the support and efforts of the School Council members: Co-Chair and Parent Representative, Maria Scudere-Weiss; Teacher Representative, Marnie Henneman; Parent Representative, Laura Griffin; Community Representative, James Lafley; Teacher Representative, Heidi

Oldenburg; Parent Representative, Denise Smith; and Co-Chair, Principal Sandra Bremer. These council members were instrumental in maintaining high standards and expectations for all students and staff members. The primary schools continued to be recognized and commended for their safe, friendly, and nurturing learning environment. A pro-active home school partnership complemented by an extensive parent volunteer program also helped to enhance this well deserved reputation.

Several new personnel were hired and became valuable additions to our staff. They were: Craig Murdock, physical education teacher; Jennifer Gurney and Molly Karlin, special education teachers; and Catherine Waters, guidance counselor. In closing, we would like to and thank two very special secretaries who retired at the end of the year; Rita Owczarski, with 30 years of service and Amelia Gancarz with 22 years of service. We wish them both many years of health and happiness in their retirement and extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude for their years of service and dedication to our primary schools.

Elementary School Principal's Report

During the 2003 school year, the Swift River School Community continued to be caring, respectful, dynamic, and provided a safe environment for faculty, staff and students. Despite the continued financial challenges, all school administration, faculty, and staff did their utmost to provide a most successful educational experience for each and every child at Swift River Elementary School.

Much of our time continued to be focused on implementing curriculum and effective practices and strategies aligned with the Educational Reform Act of 1993 and the re-authorization of the Educational Secondary and Elementary Act 2003 (No Child Left Behind). Our primary goal was to more effectively meet the needs of all our students in their learning of mathematics. After spending one year researching and developing a performance based math protocol, we were able to initiate our first year of the flexible math groupings. This provided us with the opportunity to group students by performance levels which in turn lessens the continuum of differentiated instruction in one classroom. The math classes had a heterogeneous group of students, but with a smaller level of differentiation. The flexibility component allowed for teachers to move students amongst the levels dependent upon their performance. In order to maintain a data-driven approach, movement from group to group is based upon objective assessments.

Our school media center, under the capable direction of Chris Brownell, continued to play an integral role within our school-wide curricula. A variety of offerings encouraged students and staff to share multicultural literature and to appreciate both our universal connections and unique traditions from around the world. A rich selection of events was sponsored by the media center. These included: Chinese New Year, Spanish History Month, Black History Month, and Women's History Month. While the media center remained a place for students to test newly learned skills, it also provided many opportunities for families to gather. These included: Children's Book Week, Family Literacy Night, and our Annual Book Fairs.

The Swift River Elementary Council reviewed and updated our School Improvement Plan, which was approved by the School Committee in November 2003. This year's council was comprised of: Lisa Bombard, Parent Representative and Co-Chair; Darlene Pelkey, Teacher Representative; Rose Luippold, Parent Representative; Sarah Lubeck, Parent Representative; Karen Horak, Parent Representative; Nancy Kwiatkowski, Teacher Representative; Principal Gary Millet, Chair; and Assistant Principal Barbara MacKenzie-Rodgers, ex-officio member.

Middle School Principal's Report

During 2003, the Chestnut Hill Community School continued to provide an outstanding learning center where students in grades 6, 7, and 8 received instruction from highly qualified teachers in a caring and nurturing environment. CHCS continued to be proud of our interdisciplinary teaming model, exploratory program, and beautiful building. We remained dedicated to the CHCS mission of building a school program that is academically excellent, developmentally responsive, and socially equitable.

As part of our continued effort to meet the needs of all of our students, it was necessary to expand programs. The establishment of the Life Skills Program allowed CHCS to reach and provide services to several of our more challenged students. This additional program helped to ensure that all students received the support they needed to be successful at the middle school level.

CHCS was able to continue its outstanding after school program that provided homework help, enrichment activities, and a wide range of student support services for the past five years. In recent years we were fortunate to have had the support of federal and state funds to keep the program operational. In the Spring of 2003, however, we found ourselves without these funds and faced with the very real possibility of shutting the program down. As the result of a very generous $150,000 three year total matching gift/grant from Country Bank for Savings and the philanthropic Art of Giving Program, CHCS was able to continue and expand its after school programs in the Fall of 2003. These two gifts, from private sources, were just another example of the support our school has received from the community.

The result of successfully submitting a proposal for Carol M. White federal grant funds during 2003 will allow our physical education students to participate in a curriculum that will focus more on lifelong wellness activities that can be pursued outside of school's classrooms. Physical education classes will be able to utilize technology to assess student fitness and create individual student profiles. Activities in class will include the use of fitness equipment such as treadmills, heart rate monitors, and cross trainers. A strong adventure component will feature team building activities and the challenge of a new climbing wall that has been installed at Jabish Brook Middle School.

As the year drew to a close the community overwhelming voted to allocate additional capital funds to complete the renovations on the former Belchertown High School facility so that it can open in September of

2004 as the new Jabish Brook Middle School.

High School Principal's Report

On January 2, 2003, the faculty, staff, and students returned to Belchertown High School after completing four very successful months in our new state-of-the-art facility. We were very eager to see what the new year had in store for us. We were certainly not disappointed!

During January, our winter athletic teams experienced much success. Our basketball teams, hockey team, wrestling team, and swim teams all did very well in January and February and all of our student-athletes were involved in post-season action. Our Girls' Basketball Team under the leadership of Coach Jon Endelos and our Hockey Team under the leadership of Coach Jeff Cristina earned championships in the Pioneer Valley Athletic Interscholastic Conference. The success that our student athletes received in the winter of 2003 was just a foreshadowing of greater accomplishments to come.

On February 12th, we welcomed the Class of 2007 and their parents to our Eighth Grade Orientation Program. The eighth grade students and their parents were all every excited to be in the new high school. The orientation program began in the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium with a performance by our award winning Wind Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Michael Bauer. Superintendent of Schools Mr. Richard Pazasis and Student Council President Alison Lamory also addressed the students and parents. After this, students and parents were able to participate in a number of activities – they took tours of the building with our current students, they learned more about the many clubs and organizations at the Student Activities Fair, and they met with faculty members from the English, Math, Science, Foreign Language, Music, Art, Computer Technology, Physical Education/Wellness, Guidance, and Library Media Service Departments. The orientation program was very well received by the Class of 2007 and their parents. The success of this evening was due in large part to the dedication of the faculty, staff, and students and the enthusiasm they show for Belchertown High School.

In February, we celebrated Black History Month. The Black History Month Committee made up of Mrs. Mary Ellen O'Reilly-Bracey, Ms. Colleen Bracey '04, Ms. Nicole Cummings '04, Ms. Leny-Jo Captein, Ms. Lori Vaz, and Reverend Todd Farnsworth organized a wonderful morning and afternoon of events on February 27th. During the morning, Professor Bracey spoke to the juniors and seniors and Ms. Sarah Bourbeau '05 and Mr. Michael Carney '05 gave a musical performance. In the afternoon, Dr. Alvin Paige, designer of the memorial to Martin Luther King and Mrs. Mary Pittman-Wyatt, noted speaker Civil Rights Activist and granddaughter of a slave spoke to the entire Belchertown High School community in the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium. There was also a performance by the Belchertown High School Chorus.

In March, Ms. Erika Swanson, valedictorian of the Class of 2003 and Mr. Stephen Mathras, salutatorian of the Class of 2003, were recognized by the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents for their excellence in academics and extra-curricular activities. Erika and Stephen, along with their parents, were honored at a dinner hosted by Pathfinder Regional High School. Erika is now in her freshmen year at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stephen is in his first year at Northeastern University.

In April, the Pops Concert was held on Friday, April 4th and Saturday April 5th. These were two incredible nights of music! Our students are extremely talented musicians. It was a privilege to be in attendance at these performances. Mr. Michael Bauer and his student-musicians were outstanding. Gettysburg, the Symphonic Suite from Lord of the Rings, and John Williams – The Symphonic Marches were amongst some of the favorite pieces played on those evenings. Mr. Lloyd Armstrong, Mr. Nathan Holesovsky, Ms. Erin Lylis, Mrs. Mary Ellen O'Reilly-Bracey, Mrs. Nancy Kronenberg, and Mrs. Sam Grudgeon also contributed to the success of the evening with their work with the Jazz Band, Chorus, and Flag Unit. Following the concerts, the Belchertown Band Boosters hosted a dessert reception in the cafeteria.

On Saturday, May 31st, the Class of 2003 became the first class to graduate from Belchertown High School. Even though the day was rainy, a wonderful celebration was held in the gymnasium for our graduates. Mrs. Christine Holesovsky, Spanish teacher, advisor to the Class of 2003, and 1993 graduate of Belchertown High School delivered the commencement address. Other speeches were given by Mr. Daniel Jurkowski, Ms. Erika Swanson, and Mr. Stephen Mathras. During the week prior to graduation, many wonderful events took place to honor the Class of 2003. The sophomores sponsored the Senior Breakfast in the cafeteria where seniors gathered to reminisce and sign each other's yearbooks. The juniors presented flowers to the seniors at the awards ceremony which took place during the evening. Over $40,000 in scholarships were awarded to our seniors. Three of our seniors – Mr. Daniel Ptaszynski, Ms. Erika Swanson, and Rachel Weiss were awarded the very prestigious Stanley Z. Koplik Certificate of Mastery Award for their success on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System and other local, state, and national assessments.

Our first year in our new school went very well! We are so grateful to the community for providing us such a wonderful facility. Together, the administration, faculty, staff, students, and parents enjoyed an outstanding 2003 school year and we were all looking forward to many exciting years to come.

Photo credit: Chris Parzych

The summer was spent getting ready for the arrival of the Classes of 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007. An orientation program was held in August to welcome the Class of 2007. Many members of the classes of

2004, 2005, 2006 gave up one of their remaining days of summer vacation to help the Class of 2007 become acclimated to their new school.

An Opening Day Convocation ceremony was held on August 27th as everyone arrived very excited for the first day of school. Ms. Madeline Fitzgerald who has taught for forty five years at Belchertown High shared her memories of her time at Belchertown High School. Ms. Fitzgerald's words and of course her dedication and enthusiasm for BHS earned her a five minute standing ovation! Also during this convocation ceremony, new students and teachers were welcomed to Belchertown High School. The new teachers included Mrs. Marilyn Higgins, a long time Physical Education teacher at Cold Spring School, Mr. Timothy Woodcock, our new Math teacher, Ms. Amanda Hatch and Mr. Stephen Vigneux, our new additions to the English Department, and Mr. Mitchell Taylor, a new member to our Special Education Department.

In September, we received word about the scores on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System. The Class of 2005 did very well. In fact, 73 students qualified for the Stanley Z. Koplik Certificate of Mastery Award because they received one score of proficient and one score of advanced and/or proficient on the test. Belchertown High School was also told by the Department of Education that they had achieved Adequate Yearly Progress in all areas. Congratulations to the Class of 2005 and their teachers - primary, elementary, middle school, and high school for their fine accomplishments on the MCAS!

In addition to our students excelling in their academic program, our students also excelled in their athletic program. The Girls' Soccer team captured the Division II State Soccer Championship. Under the leadership of Coach Chris Mogavero, the girls earned the first state championship for Belchertown High School. Also, the Boys' Soccer team, coached by Mr. Tony Almeida, became Western Massachusetts Champions. And if that wasn't enough, the Football team coached by Mr. Pat Sledzieski won the Tri County Super Bowl after just three years as a varsity team. The Girls' Volleyball team and the Boys' and Girls' Cross Country teams all saw post season action. In fact, Christine Dzialo '06 was a State Finalist for the Girls' Cross Country team. It was quite a fall at Belchertown High School!

December came upon us and the annual Senior Citizen Brunch was held for our local seniors. Dr. Diane Smith, Ms. Lori Vaz, Mrs. Judy Bettencourt, Mrs. Cheryl Relihan and their students hosted a lovely event for the seniors which included brunch and a poetry reading. Mr. Lloyd Armstrong and the Jazz Band helped to get the seniors in the holiday spirit. A great time was had by all who attended. Mrs. Jo Ann Cibelli and the Humanities Club and Mrs. Agnes Robarge and the Drama Club hosted a holiday event for the local school children complete with snacks and a production of How the Grinch Stole Christmas.

As we close out 2003, all of us at Belchertown High School are proud of what our students have accomplished academically, athletically, and musically. We look forward to more success in the future. Belchertown High School is a very special place with very special students and teachers.

Together we do make a difference at Belchertown High School!

Photo credit: Chris Parzych

Girls Division II State Soccer Champions !!

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The activities of the Department of Public Works during 2003, were heavily influenced by one of the wildest weather patterns we have experienced in quite some time. Not only was it one of the most active patterns with a storm occurring an average almost one out of every three days, the region also received near record amounts of precipitation. In spite of this, we completed another exciting and successful year. Below we have provided a brief outline of each Division's accomplishments and activities:

Highway Division

The Highway Division's activities for the year ended much the same as they began – snow removal!

During the 2002/2003 winter, our crews responded to 40 separate storms, which eventually dumped 107.5 inches of snow and ice. Clearing the roadways of this mess required 2,427.4 tons of road salt, 7662.6 tons of sand countless hours of plowing.

The snow removal activities were quickly replaced by our normal array of maintenance activities including street sweeping and pothole patching. We are proud to report that for the first time, every street in Town was swept at least once. Unfortunately, this accomplishment was diminished by one of the worst pothole seasons we have ever experienced. Generally, pothole repairs are complete by the end of May, and we occasionally send crews out as required. However, this past year we had a crew on the road every day the weather allowed and still had a difficult time staying ahead.

Our resurfacing projects consisted of the final paving on Springfield Road, Warner Road, North Gulf Road, and Aldrich Street. In total, approximately three miles of roadway was completed and another 2,000 feet on Granby Road was prepared for the upcoming paving season.

Water Reclamation

The Water Reclamation Facility treated 150.9 million gallons of sewerage during 2003. This amount is more than twice the 2002 amount (70.8) and well above the three year average of 108 million gallons. Due to the added cost associated with treating the increased flows, and the strict discharge parameters that have been imposed by the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Environmental Protection Agency, we were forced to increase our fees in 2003. Residents within the central sewer district received an increase of $85.00 per Equivalent Dwelling Units, per year and the south Belchertown sewer district's rates increased $134.00 per EDU, per year. The new rates in effect are $518.00, and $325.96 per EDU respectively.

The construction of sewers in the Tri-Lakes region also made considerable progress throughout the year. By the end of the year, $4,237,026.10 of the budgeted $6,246,664.00 has been expended. Nearly 70% of the 7 miles of new sewers are complete, and the two pump stations are almost operational. We are expecting the availability of these sewers to those residents during the spring of 2004.

The staff at the facility also stayed busy with their daily routines of preventative maintenance process control, and analytical work. They implemented a new respirator program, cleaned sewers, and highlighted the season by completing a comprehensive study of the capacity of the Jackson Street, former State School Sewers. The $64,000 cost of the study will lay the groundwork for future replacement projects.

Buildings Division

The Buildings Maintenance Division currently has 27 buildings under its control. Consequently, the majority of their time was spent performing routine maintenance activities. However, they also completed an impressive list of capital improvement projects. The highlights for the year included the completion of a 500 square foot office expansion at the Highway Garage. The installation of a new heating and air conditioning unit at the Finnerty House, the installation of a propane heater at the Dog Pound and painting of the Library and Freedom Center exteriors. This Division ended its year with preparations for future projects including the construction of a new salt storage shed, and maintenance garage addition, as well as the replacement of the Town Hall roof.

Grounds Maintenance

The Grounds Maintenance Division's year was highlighted by assuming full control of the grounds of the new high school. With nearly 30 acres of new grass, and the above average rainfall, this Division was pushed to the extent of its capabilities. Consequently, the completion of many of their other responsibilities was significantly delayed. Fortunately, the mild weather during the fall allowed some extra time to catch up. However, with 17 soccer fields, 2 football fields, 9 ball fields, 11 cemeteries, countless shrubs and an estimated 200 + acres of grass, playing catching up is all to common.

Transfer Station

Activity at the Town's Transfer Station remained constant throughout the year. Approximately 1,800 households participated in the program generating the following quantities of solid waste and general recyclables:

- 29 tons of plastic
- 463 tons of paper & cardboard
- 110 tons of glass & metal
- 1560 gallons of waste oil
- 577 tires
- 924 tons of solid waste

Due to increase in our operating expenses and disposal fees, the Transfer Station fees increased again in 2003. The price for an access permit increased $10.00 to $60.00, with the senior citizens discount of $12.00.

Cemetery Division

Activity within our Cemetery Division increased in 2003. One removal and a total of 43 burials were conducted, 11 of which were cremations. We also received a sizeable donation of both funding and labor to install a well, plumbing and electricity at South Cemetery. We now have spigots available for watering flowers and the flagpole is illuminated at nighttime.

Tree and Vegetation Control

The tree and vegetation control activities increased significantly this past year, with tree removals and roadside mowing accounting for the majority. However, thanks to help from the Selectmen's Office, we finally kicked off a Tree Replacement Program. With Town labor, and private donations, we planted several memorial trees around the Town Center. Also, in an effort to provide a historical accounting of the Center we completed a survey and prepared a draft plan of the features on the common, including the trees. We are looking forward to completing this project for the future generations to enjoy.

Concluding Statement

The Department of Public Works has always managed to complete every year successfully. None of this would have been possible without the continued support of the Town the countless private contractors, and the employees within the Department. I would like to thank each of our employees (listed below) for their continued dedication and support:

- Daniel Alexander, Laborer
- Chris Elias, DPW Laborer
- Cheryl Bishop, Administrative Assistant
- Edward Forgette, Highway Division Mechanic
- Max Bock, Buildings Maintenance Supervisor
- Debra Giammarino, Custodian
- Walter Bosworth, Highway Division Foreman
- Scott Hennessey, WWTP Operator II
- Darin Braese, Highway Division Equipment Operator I
- David Hodgen, Cemetery Worker
- Kevin Brown, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor
- Tom Kirley, Highway Division Operator I
- Michelle Burns, Custodian
- Rene LaFleche, Highway Division Operator II
- Ed Burton, Highway Division Operator I
- Denis Lessard, Highway Division Operator II
- Terry Chevalier DPW Laborer
- Sean Madden, DPW Laborer
- David Clegg, Buildings Maintenance Worker
- Joe Michalak, Transfer Station Foreman
- Robert Cole, Highway Division Supervisor
- Michael Morin, DPW Laborer
- Robert Cole, Jr., Transfer Station Attendant
- Leo Peet, Highway Division Operator I
- Rollin Dewitt, WWTP Operations Supervisor
- David Wanczyk, WWTP Operator I

Respectfully submitted,
Steven J. Williams, Director
Department of Public Works

SKATE PARK COMMITTEE

www.BelchertownSkatePark.org

The Skate Park Committee consists of five members as appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee is responsible for operating and maintaining the Community Skate Park at 70 State Street in Belchertown.

The Committee meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 5 p.m., meetings are held at either the Town Hall or at the Emergency Medical Services Department located at 9 East Walnut Street.

The Committee members have volunteered time over this past year to perform the following:

- Equipment maintenance.
- Repair to ramps and jumps.
- Grounds Maintenance.
- Daily cleanup of the park.
- Enforcing use of safety equipment.
- Daily opening & closing of park.
- Covering the ramps for winter.

After more then a year of unsuccessful searching for additional members to join our committee, we requested the Board of Selectmen to reduce the size of our Committee from seven members to just five members.

Due to the lack of volunteers to assist us with opening and closing the park every day, we were forced to reduce the days of operation to weekends only. We are actively seeking volunteers to assist us in opening and closing the park in 2004, if you are able to volunteer to either open or close the park please contact us.

In October of 2003 the Skate Park held an open house and volunteer signup day. This event was sponsored by Theory Skate Parks and the Band Hydrolic Jack provided live music, expositions by professional riders and skaters. Food and prizes were donated by members of the Committee. The day was a great success and was enjoyed by all.

The Community Skate Park committee continues to seek alternative methods to support park maintenance and keep the park safe for everyone. The Skate Park currently funds maintenance and activities by selling "Skate Park" t-shirts; the proceeds are our only means of fund raising at this time. Shirts are only $15.00 and will allow anyone who has one to participate in the two member's only skate days in 2004.

American Sports Data estimates this year more than 9.3 million skateboarders under the age of 18 will take to the streets of the United States, yet Skateboarding remains to be safer than other recreational choices available to today's youth. The following data is compiled by the National Safety Council and the Consumer Safety Commission.

Sport	Participants	Injuries	%
Baseball	36,600,000	437,207	1.26%
Basketball	29,600,000	761,358	2.57%
Football	14,700,000	409,296	2.78%
Ice Hockey	1,700,000	61,264	3.60%
Soccer	10,300,000	146,409	1.42%
Volleyball	20,500,000	112,120	0.54%
Skateboarding	6,200,000	27,718	0.49%

With your support, The Community Skate Park Committee will be able to provide our users with a clean, safe and challenging park for their enjoyment.

Hope to see you at the park in the spring of 2004!

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven A. Syriac, Chairman
Debra Grudgen, Vice Chairperson
Robin Marion, Clerk
Jason Chagnon, Member

TEEN CENTER

The Teen Center is in its fifth year of operation and its success continues. This success not only comes from the support of the administration but from the community and it's many volunteers. Without their assistance and encouragement the center would not continue to be a model center in Western Ma. Changes around the center have added a new spark and ownerships to our newest members. We have repainted walls and decorated new areas.

This year marks our first full year of daily programming. We remain open five days a week. Summer programming was a huge success offering three full day programs, which included trips to the beach, art and craft classes, card tournaments, and special daily activities. The Safe Sitter program was in full swing offering several classes over the summer months. We look forward to next summer and the addition of activities.

The Friends of the Center were busing this past year raising the necessary money to have a center that we can be proud of. The friends had two successful craft fairs on the common and the annual holiday fair at the center. The money raised has allowed us to offer dynamic programming along with the ability to purchase a new foos ball, air hockey, and numerous additional game tables and equipment. It has also permitted us to offer free special programs that are always greeted with cheers.

Overall, the Teen Center focuses on providing enriching activities to teens that might otherwise not have an opportunity to express themselves creatively and to learn constructive problem solving and social skills within a positive growth-oriented environment. Over three hundred teen residents from seventh to twelfth grade visit the center each week to work on school and center projects, learn the game of pool, foosball, or ping-pong, and more importantly learn the necessary social and personal skills that will give them a firm advantage throughout their lives. We look forward to a successful next year and our new adventures.

Submitted by:

Susan Shea-Bressette
Teen Center Coordinator

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This year has seen a number of changes in the membership for the Belchertown Telecommunications Advisory Committee Members Andy Katafiasz, Art Dunbar, and myself have remained, while Daniel Fitzpatrick has resign, and Jim Kearney has moved out of town. In a special meeting, this Committee has reviewed the applications of people who have expressed an interest in joining the Belchertown Telecommunications Advisory Committee for membership. We recommended that following people join the Committee: Lew Louraine, James Burke, Christofer deHahn, and Nick O'Conner. A letter was sent to the Board of Selectmen and the Town accepted the recommendation. I like to welcome the new members and give a word of thanks to Dan and Jim for their years of service on this committee. Both will be missed.

Charter Communications continued to increase subscribership to its Internet and digital services. Robert J. Spain Jr. remains as the company's Regional Manager of Government Relations.

The Town received in February 2003, the franchise tax remittance form Charter Communications for the period from January 1, 2002 to January 31, 2002. The tax is based on 4,154 subscribers and at the rate of $0.50 per subscriber, yielding a total amount of $2077. The number 4,154 represents an increase of 221 subscribers from January 2003 to January 2003.

In June 2003, as recommended by this Committee to the Board of Selectmen, an amendment was passed to the Cable TV License between the Town of Belchertown and Charter Communication. The amendment authorizes Charter Communications to close its Belchertown business office and as part of the amendment, a contribution to the Town of $10,000 annually for the operating and equipment expenses for the community access channel. Following a public hearing held during the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen, the amendment was sent to Charter. This amendment was accepted and approved by Charter Communications in the same month.

In August of 2003, the State's Department of Telecommunications and Energy Cable Television Division notified the Town of Belchertown that Charter Communication's cable television license will expire on July 1, 2007. The Department is encouraging the Town to begin preparing for the renewal processes. This will certainly part a large part of the Committee's work in the upcoming years. This process is one of the few leverage points the Town has in negotiation with Charter Communications.

Charter Communications has will roll out new service in 2004 including Video on Demand, High Definition Television and Digital Packages. These will also reflect new rate fees beginning in Feb of 2004.

Complaints to this committee pertain to hookups, service calls and the addition of the Internet service. Other comments were rate increases due to additional programs brought into the channel line-up. Again we need to remind subscribers that neither this committee nor the Town of Belchertown has any authority in terms of channel selection or payment rates. The cable rates are regulated by the State, and channel selection is based on FCC regulations and well as the popularity of any particular program channel.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank D. Lomanno, Chairman
Telecommunications Advisory Committee

VETERANS' GRAVES OFFICER

The year 2003 saw the completion of a four-year project to locate, identify, and computerize all veterans' graves located within Belchertown's eight cemeteries. A computerized listing was turned into the Selectmen's Office in June 2003 showing where 436 markers were identified.

All veterans' graves were flagged this past Memorial Day with the valued assistance of American Legion Post 239. A special thanks to their members.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Viglione, Veterans' Graves Officer
Kathleen Wood, Assistant Veterans' Graves Officer

VETERANS' SERVICES

The Veterans' Services Department has reached out to assist many more Veteran families in their time of need. The year 2003 really expanded the assistance we provide for their day-to-day living.

Because of the tremendous increase in service work, expansion of office hours and upgrading of staff is necessary. By the time the Annual Town Report is issued, the expansion and upgrade should already be in effect.

Shirley and Albert Slavas meet with Robert Messer, Director

Remember, "We owe "everything" to these Veteran's, who's sacrifices and service allow us to enjoy all the liberties we have."

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Messier, Director
Veterans' Services

WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The Committee members reorganized and appointed Edward Knight as Chairman. Other members include: Leo Beauchemin, Francis Dudek, F. Thomas Keefe, Janet Jourdain, Kelly Slate, and Susan Gay, as an Associate Member and Secretary.

The Committee has been trying to raise money to repair the Union Soldier Monument, which has stood for 118 years. There is structural failure of the inner support and as a result, the monument leans 2 degrees to the North and 3 degrees to the West.

The estimated amount of money to correct the monument from leaning is $30,700. The success of the fund raising has brought the amount of money to $9,300.00.

The Committee posts meetings and the public is invited. The meetings are held at the Fire Department, usually on a Thursday evening.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the War Memorial Committee:

Susan Gay, Associate Member and
Secretary

BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board of Appeals received 24 applications for the year 2003. Of the 24 applications received, 13 were for special permits and 11 were for variances. Of the thirteen special permit applications, eight were granted, one was denied, one was withdrawn by the applicant and three were carried over into 2004. Of the 11 variance applications, seven were granted, three were denied and one was withdrawn by the applicant.

Respectfully submitted by:

Zoning Board of Appeals
Raymond Goff, Chairman
Richard Barry, Vice Chairman
Diane Loftus Mas, Member
Gregory Galanek, Associate Member
Patricia LaFore, Associate Member

BELCHERTOWN · MASSACHUSETTS
FOUNDED 1731 · INCORPORATED 1761

Action taken at the Special Town Meeting held May 12, 2003 at the Belchertown High School Veterans Memorial Auditorium
FY03

Moderator – Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:13 PM
Registered voters present – 164 (Quorum required – 75)
The Clerk read the return of the Warrant.

Article 1 Vote to transfer from the Sewer Debt Account the sum of $35,100.00 to the School Department #4310 Account for snowplowing costs. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 2 Voted to transfer from the Sewer Debt Account the sum of $25,900.00 to the School Department #1210 Account for Medicaid Administration Fees. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 3 Voted to transfer from Free Cash the sum of $103,841.00 and from the Sewer Debt Account the sum of $70,000.00, for a total appropriation of $173,841.00, to the Snow and Ice Control Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 4 Voted to transfer from the Treasurer/Collector Wage Account the sum of $8,000.00 and from the Senior Center Wage Account the sum of $9,000.00, for a total appropriation of $17,000.00, to the Emergency Medical Services Wage Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 5 Voted to transfer from the Dog Officer Wage Account the sum of $2,500.00 to the Dog Officer Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 6 Voted to transfer from the Maintenance Wage Account the sum of $6,700.00 to the DPW – Highways/Personnel Wage Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 7 Voted to transfer from the Treasurer/Collector Wage Account the sum of $450.00 to the Treasurer/Collector Salary Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 8 Voted to transfer from the Treasurer/Collector Wage Account the sum of $5,000.00 to the Treasurer/Collector Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 9 Voted to transfer from the Town Accountant Salary Account the sum of $2,200.00 to the Town Accountant Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 10 Voted to transfer $3,000.00 from the Town Accountant Salary Account to the following Accounts:

- ➢ $1,000.00 to the Finnerty House Account
- ➢ $1,000.00 to the Lawrence Memorial Hall Account
- ➢ $1,000.00 to the Town Garage Account

(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 11 Voted to transfer from the Town Accountant Wage Account the sum of $8,300.00 and from the Town Share – Life Insurance Account the sum of $700.00, for a total appropriation of $9,000.00, to the Transfer Station Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 12 Voted to transfer from the Town Share – Life Insurance Account the sum of $1,000.00 to the Recreation Building Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 13 Voted to transfer from the Cemetery Wage Account the sum of $2,000.00 to the Freedom Center Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 14 Voted to transfer from the Police Department Salary Account the sum of $34,000.00 and from the Police Department Wage Account the sum of $31,000.00, for a total appropriation of $65,000.00, to the Police Department Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 15 Voted to transfer from the Clapp Memorial Library Wage Account the sum of $1,270.00 to the Clapp Memorial Library Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 16 Voted to reduce the following line items in the annual budget for fiscal year 2003:

➤ Board of Selectmen Wage:	$96.00
➤ Town Administrator Wage:	$699.00
➤ Town Accountant Wage:	$675.00
➤ Town Clerk Salary:	$441.00
➤ Treasurer/Collector Wage:	$927.00
➤ Computing Wage:	$738.00
➤ Assessors Expense:	$1,045.00
➤ Law Account:	$375.00
➤ Finance Committee Expense:	$2.00
➤ Planning Expense:	$375.00
➤ Board of Appeals Expense:	$14.00
➤ EDIC Expense:	$12.00
➤ Cable Access Expense:	$7.00
➤ Conservation Wage:	$265.00
➤ Police Wage:	$5,943.00
➤ EMS Expense:	$1,331.00
➤ Fire Wage:	$1,187.00
➤ Dog Officer Wage:	$85.00
➤ Inspections Expense:	$536.00
➤ Civil Defense Expense:	$7.00
➤ Schools #9000 Expense:	$78,961.00
➤ Workers Compensation Expense:	$11,805.00
➤ Board of Health Expense:	$105.00
➤ Council on Aging Expense:	$1,374.00
➤ Veterans' Services Expense:	$234.00
➤ Veterans' Graves Expense:	$4.00
➤ Mobile Home Rent Control Expense:	$1.00
➤ Clapp Memorial Library Wage:	$1,226.00
➤ Parks and Recreation Beach Expense:	$1,141.00
➤ Historical Commission Expense:	$2.00
➤ Historic District Bylaw Commission Expense:	$2.00

➢ Patriotic Exercises Expense:	$2.00
➢ Annual Reports Expense:	$18.00
➢ Unclassified Expense:	$208.00
Total:	**$109,843.00**

(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 17 Voted to transfer from the Town Clerk Salary Account the sum of $4,000.00 to the Town Clerk Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 18 Voted to transfer from the Town Clerk Salary Account the sum of $1,500.00 to the Election & Registration Part-Time Wage Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 19 Voted to transfer from the Conservation Commission Wage Account the sum of $2,000.00 to the Conservation Expense Account for the purpose of hiring a consultant to assist with GIS mapping to update the Wetlands Map.(Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Meeting dissolved 7:31PM.

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

Action taken at the Annual Town Meeting held May 12, 2003 at the Belchertown High School Veterans Memorial Auditorium

FY04

Moderator – Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at 7:40 PM
Registered voters present – 164 (Quorum required – 75)
The Clerk read the return of the Warrant
Selectman Grasso led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, and the National Anthem was played by the Belchertown High School Band Ensemble.
Selectman Barron presented the Volunteer of the Year Award to Sherman Gould.
Selectman Reardon presented the Employee of the Year Award to Michael Bauer.
Selectman Aponte presented the Citizen of the Year Award to Florine Neggers.

Article 1 Voted to nominate Linda E. Barron and Suzanne M. Bay as Almoners of the Whiting Street and Mrs. Susan M.D. Bridgman funds, each for one year; and Kenneth Snow as Trustee of the Calvin Bridgman Fund for three years.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 2 Voted to accept the reports of the officers of the Town with the exception of the Finance Committee.

(Vote – Unanimous)

Article 3 Voted to authorize the Assessors and the Board of Health members to appoint themselves to work in their various departments for the ensuing fiscal year, at hourly rates not exceeding the following:

➢ Assessors	$9.29
➢ Board of Health Members	$6.36

Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 – Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 4 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $100.00 to be used by the Assessors for legal counsel in resolving court tax cases. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 5 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $30,000.00 to the Reserve Fund for use by the Finance Committee. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 6 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Improvement Program for use on approved town ways. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes

Article 7 Voted to appropriate from the Sale of Cemetery Lots Account the sum of $5,400.00 to the Cemetery Lot Development Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 8 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for Massachusetts Small Cities Program or other Federal or State monies and to expend any monies received as set forth in the application following a public hearing. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 9 Voted to fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided for by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended; to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds in the treasury for departmental and incidental expenses of the Town for the ensuing fiscal year; and that the various major categories of the budget as contained in the Finance Committee's report be considered separately and acted upon; and further that these sums of money granted and appropriated for the several specific purposes therein designated, be expended only for those purposes as specifically designated and under the direction of the respective officers, boards and committees of the Town. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,129,122.00 and appropriate the sum of $138,930.00 from the Stabilization Fund, and appropriate from the Wetlands Hearing Fees Account the sum of $3,500.00 to the Conservation Commission Salary Account, for a total appropriation of $1,271,552.00 for General Government, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(2/3 required, Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,860,712.00 and appropriate the sum of $240,000.00 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account, for a total appropriation of $2,100,712.00 for Public Safety, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Majority Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $17,432,011.00 and appropriate the sum of $361,070.00 from the Stabilization Fund for a total appropriation of $17,793,081.00 for the Town School Department with each item and amount recommended as shown in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(2/3/ Required, Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,306,148.00 for the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $868,745.00 for the DPW-Highways, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $20,042.00, appropriate from Landfill receipts the sum of $160,000.00 and appropriate from Landfill Enterprise free cash in the treasury the sum of $49,648.00 for a total appropriation of $229,690.00 to the Landfill Enterprise Fund, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $207,737.00, appropriate from Sewer Enterprise free cash in the treasury the sum of $142,778.00 and appropriate from Sewer receipts the sum of $609,000.00 for a total appropriation of $959,515.00 to the Sewer Enterprise Fund, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $419,186.00 for the Human Services Departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $566,887.00 for Culture and Recreation Departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $481,403.00 for DPW Buildings and Grounds Departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,836,076.00 for Pensions and Insurance Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $80,073.00 to the Unclassified Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of $4,547,864.00 for the Interest and Debt Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $40,000.00 for Hampshire Council of Governments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Majority Yes)

Article 10 Voted not to withdraw from the Hampshire Council of Governments, the effective date of said withdrawal to be July 1, 2004, and to acknowledge, pursuant to the Administrative Code of the Legislative, Charter & Code Committee of the Hampshire Council of Governments, that all obligations of the Town of Belchertown to the Hampshire Council of Governments will be met up until said effective date, and that the Town of Belchertown's allocable share of the fiscal obligations of said Council will remain a responsibility of the Town.

(Vote – Majority No)

Article 11 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of a Senior Center Transportation Program, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the Transportation Program and shall be under the control of the Director of the Senior Center; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0)

(Vote – Majority Yes)

Article 12 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of Council on Aging Programs, which fund shall be credited with receipts from these programs and shall be under the control of the Council on Aging; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Article 13 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of firefighters' protective clothing and equipment purchase and maintenance, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the open air burning permit fees, and shall be under the control of the Fire Chief; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 14 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of providing a concession at the Town Beach, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the Town Beach Concession, and shall be under the control of the Recreation Director; such expenditures not to exceed $5,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 15 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of operating the Teen Center, which fund shall be credited with receipts from program fees, and shall be under the control of the Recreation Director; such expenditures not to exceed $10,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes

Article 16 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of pool programs, which fund shall be credited with receipts from such programs, and shall be under the control of the Recreation Director; such expenditures not to exceed $75,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 17 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of witnessing and documenting percolation tests, which fund shall be credited with receipts from such tests, and shall be under the control of the Board of Health; such expenditures not to exceed $15,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 18 Voted as authorized by the provisions of MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, reauthorizing the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of transportation of pupils in grades 7 through 12 for school attendance, which fund shall be credited with receipts from said transportation, and shall be under the control of the School Committee; such expenditures not to exceed $138,000.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 19 Voted to amend the Personnel By-Law, as previously amended, in the manner printed in Article 19 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-1 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 20 Voted to adopt Chapter 184, Section 51 of the Acts of 2002, allowing the Town to adjust eligibility requirements that seniors must meet in order to qualify for a property tax exemption under MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C, effective for Fiscal Year 2004. (Finance Committee Failed to endorse this article 2-0-2)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Later Assessor Sam Joyal moved to reconsider Article 20 after which the following Amendments were accepted by a unanimous vote.

- Increase Income limits: from $13,000 to $20,000 for single property owner.
- Increase Income limits: from $15,000 to $30,000 for married property owners.
- Increase Asset limits: from $28,000 to $40,000 for single property owner.
- Increase Asset limits: from $30,000 to $55,000 for married property owners.
- Increase Exemption amount: from $500.00 to $750.00

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

(A motion was made by William Terry to take the next four (4) articles out of order and was passed by a majority vote.)

Article 22 Voted to designate National Fiber, a division of MacGregor Bay Corporation's Property at 50 Depot Street, Belchertown, MA, also known as Assessors Map 110, Parcel 38 (5.93 acres) as an Economic Opportunity Area (EOA).

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 21 Voted to approve a Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) Agreement for National Fiber, a division of MacGregor Bay Corporation, 50 Depot Street, Belchertown, MA, and designate their expansion at that location a "certified project". (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 24 Voted to designate Universal Forest Products, Inc.'s property at 155 Bay Road, Belchertown, MA, also know as Assessors Map 230, Parcel 31 (20.39 Acres) as an Economic Opportunity Area (EOA).

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 23 Voted to approve a Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) Agreement for Universal Forest Products, Inc., 155 Bay Road, Belchertown, MA, and designate their Expansion at that location a "certified project". (Endorsed by the Finance Committee 3-0-1 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 25 Voted to transfer from the EMS Subscription Account the sum of $6,000.00 to the EMS Expense Account for vehicle replacement. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 4-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 26 Correction to Article 26 needed:

On page 10 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, under §145-53. Definitions: Delete the last sentence in paragraph one, which begins with "Open Space also ..."

Move paragraph two up and join it at the bottom of paragraph one, making it the last sentence of paragraph one.

Voted to Town amend the Belchertown Zoning By-Law, as previously amended, in the manner printed in Article 26 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant and as corrected in this motion.

(2/3 Required, Vote – declared Passed)

Article 27 Voted to amend the Belchertown Zoning By-Law, as previously Amended, in the manner printed in Article 27 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

(2/3 Required, Vote – declared Passed)

Article 28 CITIZEN PETITION. Voted to adopt the Scenic Road Bylaw as printed in Article 28 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

(2/3 Required, Vote – Handcount 61-Yes, 29-No, Passed)

Article 29 CITIZEN PETITION. Voted to take no action to amend Section 1-2 of the Belchertown Bylaws, Noncriminal Disposition, by adding a Section 10 as Printed in Article 29 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

A motion was made to take no action on Citizen Petiton to amend Section 1-2)

(Vote – Unanimous To Take No Action)

Article 30 CITIZEN PETITION. Voted to take no action to have the Recreation Department not charge any fees for use of athletic fields, until such time the Town does a Complete study, including a public hearing, to determine a fair and equitable fee Structure for all Recreation programs. (Finance Committee voted not to endorse this Article 0-4-0)

A motion was made to take no action on Citizen Petition requesting the Recreation Department stop charging fees for athletic fields.

(Vote – Unanimous To Take No Action)

Article 31 Voted to adopt the Alarm Bylaw as printed in Article 31 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. (Supported by Police Chief Francis Fox)

(Vote – Majority Yes)

(Attempts to amend this article failed by a majority vote)

Article 32 Voted to amend Section 1-2 of the Belchertown Bylaws, Noncriminal Disposition, by adding a Section as printed in Article 32 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Meeting dissolved at 10:59 PM.

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF APPROPRIATIONS
TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD MAY 19, 2003
FY04

ARTICLE #	BUDGET OR DEPT	TOTAL APPROPRIATION	FROM TAX LEVY	FROM STABILIZ FUND	FROM OTHER AVAIL FUNDS	FROM BORROWING	FROM FREE CASH
1 – 3	NONE						
4	Assessors-Legal Counsel-resolving court tax cases	**100.00**	100.00				
5	Reserve Fund for Finance Committee use	**30,000.00**	30,000.00				
6	NONE						
7	Cemetery Lot Development Account	**5,400.00**			5,400.00 (Sale of Cemetery Lots Acct)		
8	NONE						
9	**Itemized Budget**						
	GENERAL GOVERNMENT (Total)	1,271,552.00					
	1. Moderator, Salary			25.00			
	Expenses			0.00			
	2. Board of Selectmen, Salary			12,600.00			
	Wages			500.00			
	Expenses			5,816.00			
	3. Town Administrator, Salary			73,637.00			
	Wages		25,923.00	46,352.00			
	Expenses		6,800.00				
	4. Town Accountant, Salary		48,512.00				
	Wages		66,820.00				
	Expenses		22,275.00				
	5. Town Clerk, Salary		32,000.00				
	Wages		35,700.00				
	Expenses		10,060.00				
	6. Treasurer/Tax Collector, Salary		48,512.00				
	Wages		112,170.00				
	Expenses		33,850.00				
	7. M.I.S. Department, Salary		54,695.00				
	Wages		84,353.00				
	Expenses		83,821.00				
	8. Board of Assessors, Assessors Elected		3,200.00				
	Assessor Salary		46,918.00				
	Wages		150,230.00				
	Expenses		22,200.00				
	Field Review Update		0.00				
	9. Law Account, Fees		81,300.00				
	10. Finance Committee, Wages		0.00				
	Expenses		250.00				
	11. Election & Registration, Salary		400.00				

ARTICLE #	BUDGET OR DEPT	TOTAL APPROPRIATION	FROM TAX LEVY	FROM STABILIZ FUND	FROM OTHER AVAIL FUNDS	FROM BORROWING	FROM FREE CASH
	Wages		13,400.00				
	Expenses		5,585.00				
9 (cont'd)	12. Planning Board, Salary		51,029.00				
	Wages		22,510.00				
	Expenses		8,260.00				
	13. Board of Appeals, Wages		2,000.00				
	Expenses		695.00				
	14. Economic Development I.C., Expenses		420.00				
	15. Task Force To Broaden Tax Base		0.00				
	16. Cable Access TV Operation, Expense		1,550.00				
	17. Conservation Commission, Salary		42,039.00		3,500.00 (Wetlands Hearing Fee Acct)		
	Wages		8,270.00				
	Expenses		3,375.00				
	PUBLIC SAFETY (Total)	**2,100,712.00**					
	18. Police Department, Salary		114,500.00				
	Wages		1,057.090.00				
	Expenses		156,639.00				
	19. Emergency Medical Services, Wages		8,882.00		240,000.00 (Ambulance Rcts Reserve Acct)		
	Expenses		104,950.00				
	20. Fire Department, Salary		57,059.00				
	Full Time Wages		63,940.00				
	Wages		70,000.00				
	Expenses		61,916.00				
	21. Injured on Duty, Expenses		10,000.00				
	22. Hydrant Service, Expenses		22,115.00				
	23. Dog Officer, Salary (Dog Officer)		1,200.00				
	Salary (Asst. Dog Officer)		600.00				
	Wages		10,976.00				
	Expenses		6,170.00				
	24. Inspection Services, Salary		46,080.00				
	Wages		55,110.00				
	Expenses		11,965.00				
	25. Civil Defense, Wages		350.00				
	Expenses		1,170.00				
	PUBLIC SCHOOLS	**17,793,081.00**					
	26. Town School Department						
	Foundation Spending		16,406,818.000	361,070.00			
	Transportation and Fixed Assets		1,025,193.00				
	REGIONAL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	**1,306,148.00**					
	27. Pathfinder Reg. Voc. Tech High School District						
	Net Budget		1,306,148.00				
	DPW - HIGHWAYS	**868,745.00**					
	28. DPW – Highways/Personnel, Salary		57,059.00				
	Wages		450,594.00				
	Uniforms		8,499.00				
	Expenses		750.00				

ARTICLE #	BUDGET OR DEPT	TOTAL APPROPRIATION	FROM TAX LEVY	FROM STABILIZ FUND	FROM OTHER AVAIL FUNDS	FROM BORROWING	FROM FREE CASH
	29. DPW – Highway Admin., Expenses		4,175.00				
	30. DPW – Snow & Ice Control, Expenses		95,050.00				
	31. DPW – Road Machinery, Expenses		62,200.00				
9 (cont'd)	32. DPW – Hired Services, Expenses		72,328.00				
	33. DPW – Street Lighting, Expenses		29,300.00				
	DPW – HIGHWAYS (cont'd)						
	34. DPW – Construction Materials, Expenses		67,300.00				
	35. DPW – Professional Engineering, Expenses		5,400.00				
	36. DPW – Town Garage, Expenses		16,090.00				
	SANITATION & ENVIRONMENTAL						
	37. Transfer Station	**229,690.00**					
	Wages		20,042.00		46,548.00 (Landfill Rcts)		
	Expenses				113,452.00 (Landfill Rcts)		49,648.00 (Landfill Ent Free Cash)
	Hazardous Waste Day		0.00				
	38. Sewer Enterprise Fund	**959,515.00**					
	Wages		171,610.00				
	Expenses		36,127.00		125,011.00 (Sewer Rcts)		142,778.00 (Sewer Ent Free Cash)
	Maturing Debt				367,074.00 (Sewer Rcts)		
	Maturing Debt Interest				116,915.00 (Sewer Rcts)		
	HUMAN SERVICES	**419,186.00**					
	39. Board of Health, Salary		2,825.00				
	Wages		4,432.00				
	Expenses		15,383.00				
	40. Council on Aging, Salary		44,127.00				
	Wages		236,410.00				
	Expenses		28,080.00				
	41. Veterans Services, Agent Salary		12,600.00				
	Agent Expenses		2,030.00				
	Veterans Benefits		44,200.00				
	42. Veterans Graves, Expenses		925.00				
	43. DPW – Cemetery Department, Wages		12,000.00				
	Expenses		15,974.00				
	44. Mobile Home/Rent Control Board, Expenses		200.00				
	CULTURAL AND RECREATION	**566,887.00**					
	45. Clapp Memorial Library, Salary		51,569.00				
	Wages		176,782.00				
	Expenses		76,661.00				
	46. Parks and Recreation, Salary		40,560.00				
	Wages		100,966.00				
	Expenses		10,401.00				
	47. Parks & Recreation Pool, Expenses		49,928.00				
	48. Parks & Recreation Beach, Wages & Expenses		18,545.00				
	49. Teen Center, Wages		35,595.00				

ARTICLE #	BUDGET OR DEPT	TOTAL APPROPRIATION	FROM TAX LEVY	FROM STABILIZ FUND	FROM OTHER AVAIL FUNDS	FROM BORROWING	FROM FREE CASH
	Expenses		2,880.00				
	50. Family Center, Expenses		3,000.00				
	DPW – BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS	**481,403.00**					
	51. DPW – Maintenance/Grounds, Wages		254,975.00				
	Expenses		38,356.00				
	52. DPW – Lawrence memorial Hall, Expenses		35,890.00				
	53. DPW – Town Common, Expenses		3,200.00				
9 (cont'd)	54. DPW – Town Clock, Expenses		600.00				
	55. DPW – Finnerty House, Expenses		9,580.00				
	56. DPW – Old Town Hall, Expenses		5,034.00				
	57. DPW – Senior Center Bldg., Expenses		35,738.00				
	58. DPW – Teen Center Bldg., Expenses		15,210.00				
	DPW – BDUILDINGS AND GROUNDS (cont'd)						
	59. DPW – Police Station, Expenses		33,680.00				
	60. DPW – EMS Bldg., Expenses		8,650.00				
	61. DPW – Freedom Center, Expenses		11,340.00				
	62. DPW – Meadow Bldg., Expenses		9,000.00				
	63. DPW – Fire Station, Expenses		19,150.00				
	64. DPW – Franklin School Bldg., Expenses		1,000.00				
	PENSIONS AND INSURANCE	**1,836,076.00**					
	65. General Insurance, Expenses		331,360.00				
	66. Unemployment Insurance, Expenses		10,000.00				
	67. Workers Compensation Insurance, Expenses		15,000.00				
	68. Health Insurance, Expenses		500,000.00				
	69. Group life Insurance, Expenses		4,000.00				
	70.0FICA – Medicare – Town Share, Expenses		49,200.00				
	71. Pensions, Expenses		926,516.00				
	UNCLASSIFIED ACCOUNTS	**80,073.00**					
	72. Historical Commission, Expenses		500.00				
	73. Historical District, Expenses		348.00				
	74. Patriotic Exercises, Expenses		300.00				
	75. Printing Annual Reports, Expenses		4,000.00				
	76. Unclassified Account, Expenses		49,925.00				
	77. Civil War Monument, Expenses		25,000.00				
	INTEREST AND MATURING DEBT	**4,547,864.00**					
	78. Interest, Expenses		1,817,894.00				
	79. Maturing Debt, Expenses		2,729,970.00				
	COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT	**40,000.00**					
	80. Council of Government, Assessment		40,000.00				
10 – 24	NONE						
25	EMS Expense Account	**6,000.00**			6,000.00 (EMS Subscription Acct.)		
26-32	NONE						
	GRAND TOTALS	**32,542,432.00**	**30,826,106.00**	**500,000.00**	**1,023,900.00**	**—**	**192,426.000**

Attest:

William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

Action taken at the Special Town Meeting held December 2, 2003 at the Belchertown High School Veterans Memorial Auditorium

FY04

Moderator – Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting called to order at
Registered voters present – 566 (Quorum required – 75)
The Clerk read the return of the Warrant.

The Special Town Meeting was called to order at 8:00PM. The opening of the meeting was delayed because of the extraordinarily large number of voters that appeared to take part in the meeting. Some 566 voters had been checked in by 8:00PM with an estimated 800 more still waiting.
Because the number far surpassed the capacity of the auditorium, the Moderator called the meeting to order, the Clerk read the warrant, and the meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. This was followed with the introduction of the Belchertown High School Soccer team which had won the State Championship this year. After a salute to the soccer team the meeting was then recessed until 7:30PM on Monday, December 9th, 2003 to be held in the High School gymnasium. This was decided to accommodate the large number of persons expected.

Action taken at the Special Town Meeting held December 9, 2003 continued from December 2, 2003, at the Belchertown High School Gymnasium

FY04

Moderator – Terry Scott Nagel
Meeting Called to order at 7:33PM
Registered voters present – 632 (Quorum required 75)

Article 1 Voted to appropriate from Chapter 246 of the Acts of 2002 the sum of $299,445.28 for improvement of local roads. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 2 Voted to appropriate from the Highway Uniforms Account the sum of $31.40 for payment of an unpaid bill of a prior year to New England Uniform, and further appropriate from the Cemetery Department Expense Account the sum of $325.00 for payment of an unpaid bill of a prior year to David G. Hodgen, for a total appropriation of $356.40. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-2 Yes)

(Vote, 9/10 required – Unanimous Yes)

Article 3 Voted to transfer the sum of $2,100.00 from the Senior Center Wage Account to the Senior Center Expense Account for the purpose of replacing sound equipment at the Senior Center. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 4 Voted to appropriate from the Stabilization Fund the sum of $204,196.00 to the School Department Account #9000 for special education costs. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Vote, 2/3 required – Unanimous Yes)

Article 5 Voted to appropriate from free cash in the treasury the sum of $458,423.00 to the Stabilization Fund. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Vote, 2/3 required – Unanimous Yes)

Article 6 Voted to take no action to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of money to the Dog Department Wage Account and Dog Department Expense Account. (No Action was endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 7 Voted to transfer the sum of $10,000.00 from the Cemetery Wage Account to the Cemetery Expense Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 8 Voted to take no action to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of money for the following:

- Sign Plotter and Computer Software
- Asphalt Heater/Conditioner
- Demolition of Center Section of Old Highway Garage
- Purchase of a replacement Dump Body and Sander
- (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Sign Plotter and Computer Software
- Asphalt Heater/Conditioner
- Demolition of Center Section of Old Highway Garage
- Purchase of a replacement Dump Body and Sander

(No Action endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

A motion was made to change the order of business and consider Article 24.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 24 Voted not to amend the Zoning By-Law as described in Article 24 as amended limiting the issuance of Building Permits in the Special Town Meeting warrant. Another amendment to change the date of expiration to three years failed. (Endorsed by Planning Board 3-0-2 Yes)

(Vote, 2/3 required – 334 Yes – 266 No / 402 needed)

Article 9 Voted to take no action to appropriate from free cash in the treasury a sum of money for the replacement of a Police Department patrol cruiser. (No Action endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 10 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen and Town Treasurer to borrow the sum of $1,025,000.00 for the following capital projects:

➤ Jabish Brook Middle School	$ 725,000.00
➤ Lawrence Memorial Hall Roof	$95,000.00
➤ Highway Department Salt Shed	$90,000.00
➤ Maintenance Department Building Addition	$30,000.00
➤ Highway Department Furnaces	$15,000.00
➤ Highway Department Dump Body and Sander	$25,000.00
➤ Highway Department Asphalt Heater - Patch Box	$17,000.00
➤ Fire Department Cab and Chassis for a Brush Truck	$28,000.00

Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Vote - Unanimous Yes)

Prior to final vote, a motion was made to vote on each item individually and was defeated.

(Vote - Majority No)

Article 11 Voted not to amend the Zoning By-Law by amending the Zoning Map, as previously amended, as described in Article 11 of this Special Town Meeting Warrant. (Planning Board voted Not to Endorse the proposed Zoning Map change. 5-0-0)

(Vote, 2/3 required - Majority No)

A motion to take Article 17 out of order was defeated.
A motion to take Article 14 out of order was also defeated.

Article 12 Voted to accept an amendment to the warrant article purposed by Pauline Johnson, to "Authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or Town Administrator to enter into an agreement for a Purchase and Sale Agreement for property located at 10 Everett Avenue contingent upon approval at a subsequent Town Meeting," identified as Assessors Map 244, Parcel 115.

(The amended motion was passed by a majority Yes)

(Vote - Majority Yes)

Article 13 Voted to amend the vote taken on Article 16 of the Annual Town Meeting held on May 14, 2001 specific to the assessment method established for the Tri-Lakes Sewer Project from the frontage method to the uniform unit method, as specified in MGL Chapter 83, Section 15, authorizing the assessment of 100% of the cost upon those who benefit from the project.

(Vote - Majority Yes)

Article 14 Voted not to accept the proposed Tri-Lakes Sewer Project Assessment as described in Article 14 in the Special Town Meeting Warrant. (Warrant article was intended to divide sewer project betterment equally between Tri-Lake sewer users and the remaining real estate owners in Town)

Debate on this article was ended by vote.

(Vote – Majority No)

Article 15 Voted not to amend the Code of Belchertown, as previously amended, by adding fines specific to the Scenic Road Bylaw to Section 1-2 as printed in this Special Town Meeting Warrant.

(Vote – Majority No)

Article 16 Voted not to designate the entire length of Shea Avenue as a scenic road in accordance with the Town's Scenic Road By-law. (Endorsed by Planning Board 4-0-1 Yes)

(Vote – Majority No)
(64 Yes – 171 No)

A motion was made to combine Article 17 – Article 20 and to consider them as one article.

(Vote – Majority Yes)

Articles 17 – 20

Voted not to designate the entire length of Old Enfield Road, the entire length of Park Street, the entire length of that portion of Federal Street that is not numbered as Route 9 and the entire length of Jackson Street as a scenic road in accordance with the Town's Scenic Road By-Law.

(Vote – Majority No)

(Before the final vote on Articles 17-20, a motion was made to take no action was defeated by a majority vote.)

Article 21 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept deeds in lieu of foreclosure on parcels known as Clearwater Ridge, Barton Avenue, Belchertown, as shown on Assessors Maps: 253-14, 253-20, 253-24, 253-25, 253-26, 253-34, 254-78, 254-79, as authorized under MGL Chapter 60, Section 77C. Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 22 Voted to enact a temporary tax amnesty program, in accordance with Chapter 4, Section 73 of the Acts of 2003, as amended by Chapter 46, Section 113 of the Acts of 2003, according to the requirements described in Article 22 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Majority Yes)

Article 23 Voted to amend the budget as voted under Article 9, Section 5, at the May 12, 2003 Annual Town Meeting relative to the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School assessment to the Town for fiscal year 2004, by reducing the appropriation therefor from $1,306,148.00 to $948,643.00, and amend the vote taken there under to meet

said appropriation by voting to raise and appropriate $778,985.00, appropriate from the Overlay Surplus Reserve Account $50,680.00, and appropriate from the Stabilization Fund

$118,978.00. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 3-0-0 Yes)
(Vote, 2/3 required – Unanimous Yes)

Article 25 Voted to take no action requiring the Board of Assessors, Director of Assessments, or Field Reviewer be notified by the Building Inspector of any temporary or permanent occupancy permit in excess of $50,000 in value or for any new residential, commercial or industrial structure, before the Building Inspector issues a certificate of occupancy.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 26 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift or eminent domain and to accept the deed to the inhabitants of the Town of Belchertown, of a fee simple interest or less in a parcel of land containing .095 acres on Summit Street, Belchertown, and further described as Assessors Map 254-58 and in a deed recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 5009, Page 175, now or formerly owned by Jeanne R. Perham and David D. Perham, upon such terms and conditions as the Board determines for road improvement purposes, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this acquisition.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Meeting Dissolved 11:45 PM

Attest:
William R. Barnett
Town Clerk

tassinari bros., inc.

custom bookbinding
ludlow, ma 01056